

THE LAMP NEWSLETTER

International

Mommy! She spit in my soup!





Wanda J. Burnside,

Founder and President

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Dear Readers,

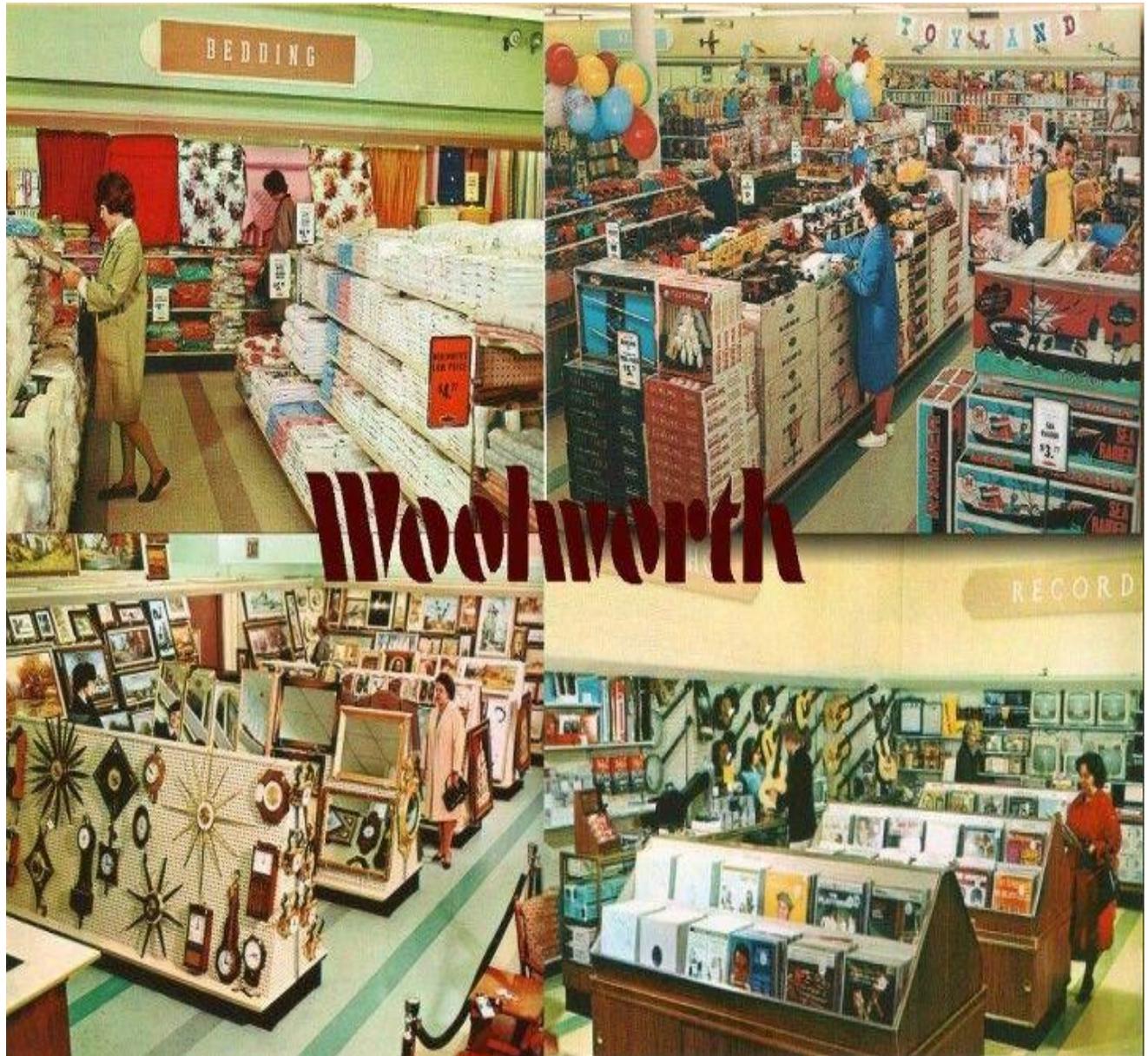
You read the headlines of this newsletter! Yes, it's true! In 1956, I said just that to my Mama, *"Mommy, she spit in my soup!"*

In those days, people in the Detroit area loved to go shopping in Downtown Detroit on Woodward Avenue, Michigan Avenue, Broadstreet, Griswold, Grand River Avenue and Randolph Street. Now, I'm talking about all races of people. Going Downtown Detroit was robust with major department stores like: J. L. Hudson's, Kresge Bros., Baker Shoe Store, Chandler Shoes, Sanders Ice Cream, Crowley Milliners, Winkleman's, B. Siegel's, Himlehoch's, Meyer's Jewelry Store, and blocks of other shopping stores. You could spend an entire day of shopping...easily.

Now, there was one more major store and that was Woolworth's. If you went downtown and didn't go into Kresge's or Woolworth...you must be STRANGE!



You shopped in those stores like people shopped in the popular dollar stores and Walmart, today. You could purchase everything from socks to ladders to robes to toys to buttons to paints to LPs of Nat King Cole or Motown songs on 45's records.



However, people liked to get the fresh roasted and hot peanuts, buttery and salty popcorns and the hot dogs that slowly spin around inside the hot roisterer.

Woolworth's offered a large lunch counter for its customers to eat hot lunches, drink cups of fresh brewed coffee, dishes of ice cream, desserts, hamburgers and other delicious foods. However, their bowls of hot vegetable beef and barley soup and hardy chicken noodle soup really hit the spot!



There were many shoppers who wanted to sit at those long counters lined with stools for people to sit, eat and have a great time. The seats at the food counters were always filled. It was difficult to find a seat. Well, if you were white...you were welcomed to sit and eat at the dining counter. The thing was, if you were African-Americans, there were only two or three stools set aside at the end of the counter for you to sit.

If you had more than three people with you, only three could sit and eat...when and if those seats were empty. If you were an African-American, and wanted to sit and enjoy something from the menu, the waitress might tell you that they were out of what you wanted. That wasn't true...*they lied!* NOBODY stopped those waitresses from denying African-American customers a seat at the counter or the food they wanted.

Many times, *often*, elderly African-American customers just stood-up and ate at the edge of the counter. Even African-American women with children were looked down upon, too. They were treated as nobody or they were ignored. I felt bad about this because I thought it wasn't right. How mean for those white people to just sit there and look away or SAY MEAN THINGS! I was only six years old, but I didn't think it was fair or right.



F. W. Woolworth Co.



<p>BACON and TOMATO50c Toasted Three Decker Sandwich</p> <p>BAKED HAM and CHEESE60c Toasted Three Decker Sandwich</p> <p>CHICKEN SALAD65c Toasted Three Decker Sandwich</p> <p>HAM SALAD and EGG SALAD50c Toasted Three Decker Sandwich</p> <p><small>Also available on two slices of bread on request.</small></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PLAIN or TOASTED SANDWICHES</p> <p>HAM SALAD Sandwich.....30c</p> <p>EGG SALAD Sandwich.....30c</p> <p>AMERICAN CHEESE Sandwich.....30c</p> <p>PRESSED HAM Sandwich.....30c</p>
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FOR A REAL TREAT!
 TRY OUR SUPER DE-LUXE HAM SANDWICH—BAKED HAM SLICED VERY THIN AND STACKED
 HIGH ON PLAIN BREAD, TOAST OR HARD ROLL
40¢ YOU WILL LIKE IT! 40¢

Fountain Features

<p style="text-align: center;">DE LUXE</p> <p>TULIP SUNDAE 25c 2 Dippers of Ice Cream covered with Crushed Fruit or Fresh Fruits in Season</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>CHOICE OF</small></p> <p>STRAWBERRY, PINEAPPLE, CHERRY, CHOCOLATE OR HOT FUDGE Topped with Whipped Topping Roasted Nuts and Cherry Ring</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">SUPER JUMBO</p> <p>BANANA SPLIT 39c 1/2 Banana covered with 3 Dippers of Ice Cream and Crushed Fruits or fresh Fruits in Season</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>CHOICE OF</small></p> <p>STRAWBERRY, PINEAPPLE, CHERRY, CHOCOLATE OR HOT FUDGE Topped with Whipped Topping and Roasted Nuts</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">EXTRA RICH</p> <p>ICE CREAM SODA 25c POPULAR FLAVORS Made with 2 Dippers of Ice Cream Crushed Fruit or fresh Fruits in Season</p>
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<p>MALTED MILK25c <small>Popular FLAVORS Made with 2 Dippers of Ice Cream</small></p> <p>MILK SHAKE25c <small>Popular FLAVORS Made with 2 Dippers of Ice Cream</small></p> <p>BANANA SPLIT Regular25c <small>Popular FLAVORS Made with 3 Dippers of Ice Cream</small></p> <p>FRESH ORANGE JUICE..... Regular 20c Large 30c <small>Freshly Squeezed to Order</small></p> <p>HOT NESTLE'S WITH WHIPPED TOPPING.....15c <small>AND WAFERS</small></p>	
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<h3 style="color: red;">Home Style Desserts</h3> <p>APPLE PIEPer Cut 15c <small>10¢ Additional with Ice Cream</small></p> <p>LAYER CAKEPer Cut 15c <small>10¢ Additional with Ice Cream</small></p>	
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WOOLWORTH COFFEE—ALWAYS GOOD


HAVE A COKE
GOES GOOD WITH FOOD

PRINTED IN U.S.A. NO. 3424 REV. 9-60

Well, one Saturday afternoon in 1956, I got my own taste of being treated unfairly by those waitresses who were white and prejudice. As a little girl, I did not hear much about race relationships. Our family lived in the inter city of Detroit, but we had all kinds of friends: Mexicans, Italians, Indians, and Polish Americans, to name a few.

That Saturday, Mama took me, my brother, Rodger and my sister, Regina Downtown with her to go shopping. Rodger and Regina were little children, much younger than me who was six years old at that time. Daddy didn't come with us because besides working daily at Cadillac General Motors, he was a professional barber on the weekends. He had several men customers from the neighborhood, church, and family who wanted a haircut or a good razor shave on Saturdays.

Well, after a long day of shopping, Mama told us we were going to eat lunch at Woolworth's which was on Woodward Ave. We were hungry and tired from Mama's shopping. We, Rodger, Regina and I, just wanted to eat and sit down.

"Wanda, you take Rodger's hand and stand on this side of me so I can hold your hand," said Mama as she picked Regina up in her arms. It was amazing how Mama could do all of this since she had at least three shopping bags in her hand! But, she managed it all. The traffic police officer blew his loud whistle for us and the crowd of shoppers to walk across the street. We walked safely across Woodward Avenue to the other side to walk to Woolworth's which was a few steps away.

"Wanda, when we get in Woolworth's we are going to the counter. I want all of us to sit down. Now, I will hold Regina on my lap. You and Rodger will have to sit half of the stool, share it," she said walking down the street to the building. We have eaten there several other times, so I knew a little about eating there.

"Mama, Rodger and I won't fit!" I said. *"I'm bigger than him,"* I pointed at Rodger.

"Wanda, I know that, but you just sit there with your brother...if we get to sit down," Mama fussed.

We got to Woolworth's; a man opened the door, and we walked in.

"Thank you, sir," said Mama grabbing our little hands and dragging us through the crowd busy aisles of shoppers. *"Oh, no...there's only one stool...we must hurry!"* she said.

"May we have that stool?" asked Mama to the white waitress who was looking at us. The waitress chewed her gum, smacked it, and took out her receipt book and said, *"What?"* Now, I know she heard Mama! Before you knew anything, Rodger ran to the stool, sat down and beckoned for us to come on.

The waitress looked at him and looked at us. *"Come on, Mommy,"* shouted Rodger. *"I saved this seat for you."*

Some of the customers giggled, but most of them looked at Mama. We went to the stool and Rodger got up for Mama to sit down.

"Isn't he a little gentleman?" said a white lady smoking cigarettes at the counter and drinking a cup of coffee. *"That boy's trained."*

"Thank you," Mama said with a certain look on her face. Then she sat down holding Regina. *"Now, I'm going to order lunch and let you and Rodger eat, then Regina and I will sit down."*

Well, I thought...if Rodger was a gentleman...why can't one of these...white men get up so Mama can sit down? Mama waited for the waitress to come. She stood there a long time holding Regina.

"I'm hungry!" cried Regina. *"I want a hot dog!"*

Surprisingly, a man got up and Mama was able to sit down next to us with Regina on her lap. The waitress finally came to take our order.

"I would like hot dogs...3 of them and 3 bowls of vegetable soups," Mama said to the waitress. *"Oh, yes...please bring us 3 Cokes...small size...and a cup of coffee."*

"I want water...everybody else has water up here," I said. *"I want a nice glass of ice water, too."*

"Yes...water, too...please," Mama said.

"I want my napkin and spoon...now...too," I said. *"Everybody else have theirs. Look ...at all the people with their water and napkin."*

"Yes, Wanda...I see that," Mama said to me. *"Don't talk so much...shhh!"*

Everybody was looking our way. Some of the white people grinned, but most of them shook their heads in disgust at me...6 year-old-me...

"When are we going to eat? Where is our water?" I whined to Mama. *"What is taking so long?"*

"Now, Wanda...you have to wait?" Mama said tapping my hand. *"Stop, now."*

"Why do we have to wait...for what? We don't have our water, yet...look at all the people with their water..." I complained.

"Wanda...Wanda!" Mama fretted. Regina started crying and Rodger was trying to push me off of the stool...he was mad...and hungry.

Our waitress served other customers from one end of the counter to the other. There were at least three or more waitresses back there with her. They did nothing. Then, more African-American customers came over to the counter to eat. They looked and some walked away.

"Sorry, we haven't got our food... we've been waiting..." I said to them. They smiled.

Then, I saw our waitress bringing our waters...without the big cubes of ice like others had. I looked and said, *"Excuse me, we don't have ice..."*

Our waitress ignored me. She went and brought out the sandwiches, pops but, only two bowls of soups. Then she brought Mama her cup of coffee.

"Be careful with the soup, Rodger and Wanda. It is hot...blow on it when you eat it," she said. *"Wanda, where is your soup? Excuse me...my daughter did not get her soup."*

I looked around. Then, I saw our waitress standing at the side of the big fountain container of orange pop. She had a bowl in her hands and she...**spit in it!** She walked down to me with it and starred at me.

"Mama! She spit in my soup!" I said tapping Mama on her arm and pointing at the waitress.

The waitress starred. Everybody was quiet. Nobody said a word, but...

"I saw her," said an old white man with an unshaven face. *"Yes, lady I did,"* he said to Mama. *"I said it because she gives me a hard way, too. She don't want me up here."* He puffed on his cigarette.

"Well, I am a church going woman and I can't lie...I saw her do that," said a white lady wearing a fancy hat. *"I won't lie!"*

"Did you do this...SPIT into my little girl's soup?" asked Mama with an angry voice and a mean face with raised eyebrows. *"How dare you be so...NASTY...AND EVIL!"*

Mama helped us to get down from the counter. She reached in her purse and took out money then put it on the counter. *"Come on, children!"*

"Wait, I'll pay," said a white man dressed in a suit. He took out money from his wallet and offered it to my mother. But, she took us by our hands and walked on.

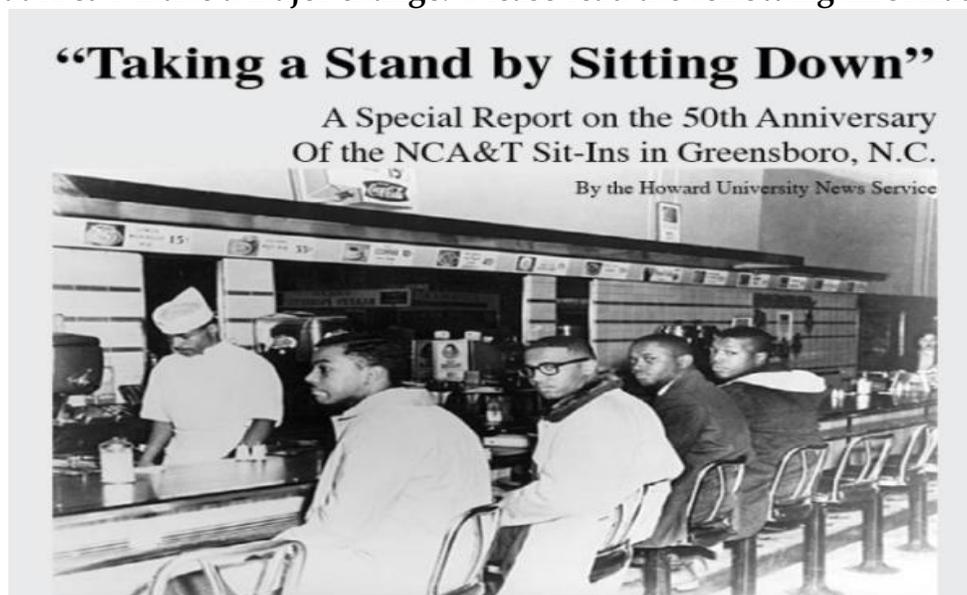
"Madame...let me pay," said another white man and others, too.

Mama walked away, but stopped in the middle of the aisle and said, *"These are my children and they deserve better! They are not going to grow up with hate and being unfair to others. These children have every right to be treated fairly. We have rights!"*

Just then a man came out from the back of the kitchen. People told him what had happened. He spoke to the waitress and fired her! *"Get out! Take your apron off and leave!"* he said. He walked down to my bowl of soup left on the counter and shook his head. He picked it up and removed it.

We left hungry from not eating our lunch, but we were full of pride and dignity that Mama gave us that day. She was not Rosa Parks who sat on the bus refusing to get up to white passengers. But, our Mama was a true Freedom Fighter like Dad and our entire family was all our lives. I am proud to say, Rodger, Regina and I grew up standing for what is right.

This racist act and other deeds of prejudice at Woolworth's were not only in Detroit, but in other cities across America. In 1960, a March and Sit-in took place in Greensboro, North Carolina drew national attention to this injustice. It took four students at A & T make a major change. Please read the following information.



People united, marched, protested and boycotted Woolworth's in 1960 for prejudice policies.



Evening Meditation
For Personal and Family Devotions

Some words to fit in to neighbor: sleeping time in the building of the...-February 1960.

Child taught us to love God without reservation and our neighbor as ourselves in the days for which Paul also points out that love of God is the fulfillment of the law of God and Christ. Paul would have given us a lot of detailed instructions instead he gave us a guiding principle that covers every situation. Real love will guide in every relationship. It will make us helpful to others in the time of their need and compel us to lead them from harm and danger.

Prayer: Help us to be good neighbors to all who are in need and to those who need a guiding hand. In Christ's holy name we ask Amen.

Greensboro Grist

BOOK CLUB TO MEET
Great Books Group No. 1 will discuss Shakespeare's "Macbeth" at an 8 o'clock meeting tonight at the Greensboro Public Library.

WATKINS ILL.
Gladie M. Watkins of Winston-Salem Court Apartments was reported in critical condition at Wesley Long Hospital this morning. Her recovery is not allowed visitors.

DEAS TO SPEAK
Z. Roper Deas, an official with American Can Co., will speak later at the 6:30 p.m. meeting of the local Industrial Management Club. The dinner meeting will be at the Mayfair Cafeteria.

PLAY ON AGAIN
"Love Remembers, Angel," dramatization of a poem by Thomas Hardy's book, will be presented again at 8:30 o'clock tonight at War Memorial Auditorium. The play, by Betty Francis, stars Mervyn Hooks and Michael Diers.

MISS KIRBY SPEAKS
Miss Mary Kirby, director of the "Dixie" District Architects at Women's College, speaks to the Providence Baptist Church Youth Conference and night here today was "Editorial Devotion" and "The answer will be...

A&T Students Launch 'Sit-Down' Demand For Service At Downtown Lunch Counter

Woolworth Made Target For Demonstration Here

BY MARVIN SYKES
Special Staff Writer

A group of 20 Negro students from A&T College occupied lunchroom counter seats, without being served, at the downtown F. W. Woolworth Co. store late this morning—objecting what they declared would be a growing movement.

The group declared double the number will take places at the counters tomorrow.

Employees of Woolworth did not serve the group and they sat from 10:30 a.m. until after noon. When customers continued to sit and get service.

Clarence Harris, Woolworth manager, replied "No comment" to all questions concerning the "sit-down" move about Woolworth custom, and about what he planned to do.

Today's 20-man action followed appearance at 4:30 p.m. yesterday of four freshmen from State Hill at A&T who sat down and stayed, without service, until the store closed at 5:30 p.m.

Students spokesmen said they are seeking "teacher" counter service, and will increase their numbers daily until they get it. Today's group came in at 10:30 a.m. Each made a small purchase one counter over from the lunchroom counter, then sat at groups of three or five at 11:30 p.m. before leaving.

There was no disturbance and there appeared to be no conversation except among the groups. Some students pulled out books and appeared to be studying.

The group today were in the presence of Woolworth...

ACCEPTS PASTOR
AT&T Rev. Ernest L. Holt, associate pastor of Sixteenth Street Baptist Church, has accepted the nomination of Stommerfield Baptist Church, effective Feb. 14. He also is Sunday school superintendent and clerk of the Piedmont Baptist Association. Prior to his association four years ago with Sixteenth Church, he was with Northwood Baptist Church, Greensboro.

STUDENTS BEGIN MOVEMENT: Shown are four of the 20 A&T College students who sat down, without being served, at the lunchroom counters of F. W. Woolworth Co. today, to start a movement they declared is for ending discrimination against Negroes there. They are, left to right, Joseph McNeil and Franklin McLain, two of the four leaders in the movement, and Billy Smith and Clarence Henderson.

The Greensboro Record

Page 1—Section B Tuesday, February 2, 1960

Archive photos are News & Record file photographs. Reprinted with permission.

60 Years Ago...

Greensboro Lunch Counter



Racial segregation was still legal in the United States on February 1, 1960, when four African American college students sat down at this Woolworth counter in Greensboro, North Carolina. Politely asking for service at this “whites only” counter, their request was refused. When asked to leave, they remained in their seats. Their sit-in drew national attention and helped ignite a youth-led movement to challenge inequality throughout the South.

In Greensboro, hundreds of students, civil rights organizations, churches, and members of the community joined in a six-month-long protest. Their commitment ultimately led to the desegregation of the F. W. Woolworth lunch counter on July 25, 1960.

Ezell A. Blair Jr. (now Jibreel Khazan), Franklin E. McCain, Joseph A. McNeil, and David L. Richmond were students enrolled at the North Carolina Agricultural and Technical College when they began their protest.

Protests such as this led to the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which finally outlawed racial segregation in public accommodations.

The closing of the Greensboro Woolworth's in 1993 presented Museum curators with the opportunity to acquire this historic artifact. After extensive negotiations with Woolworth's executives and representatives of the local community, a small section of the lunch counter was donated to the Smithsonian.

STAND FOR JUSTICE! MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN
CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST, INC.



BISHOP CHARLES E. & LADY MAE L. BLAKE, SR.
Presiding Bishop, Chief Apostle & First Lady



MOTHER BARBARA MCCOO LEWIS
General Supervisor & Convention President

2020
WOMEN'S
International
CONVENTION



MAY 25 - 29, 2020

OREGON CONVENTION CENTER | PORTLAND, OREGON

BREAKING NEWS!



PRAYER BACK IN SCHOOL

JANUARY 16, 2020 - President Donald Trump ordered prayer to be in public schools across America.

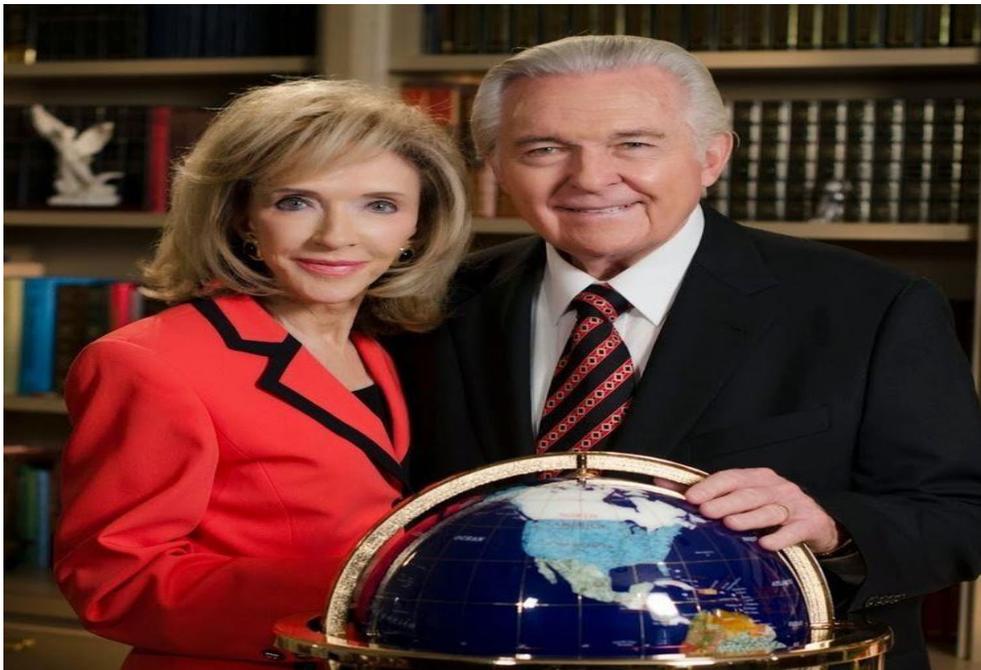
WE ARE CLOSELY FOLLOWING THIS!



**WORLDWIDE TELEVANGELIST
“The Walking Bible”
BIBLE SCHOLAR and TEACHER
LEGEND...**

DR. JACK VAN IMPE

Called to GLORY on January 18, 2020



**Pictured with his beautiful and devoted wife,
Rexella Impe of 65 years.**

Dr. Jack Van Impe was committed to giving vital biblical information to the world. He was bold in the Lord! He stood for the Bible. He never compromised with worldly practices, profane practices and new teachings. He studied and preached from Genesis to Revelations in the Holy Bible!

Please pray for his wife and their ministry!

Join us for a birthday celebration
honoring

Evangelist
Patricia Paul

07 March 2020 • 4:00 - 8:00PM

NEW CHRIST TEMPLE COGIC

10001 Hayes @ Wilshire, Detroit, MI 48213

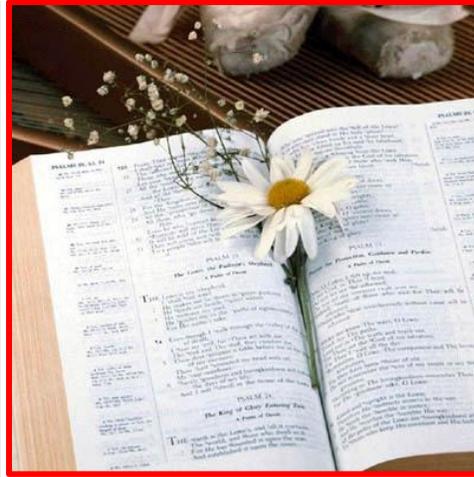
Attire: Formal Theme: The '60s

Colors: Purple, Lavender, Turquoise & Silver

Please RSVP with Angelina McCutchen @ 313-680-5644 or angelinamccutchen@gmail.com

Welcome!

A GOOD WORD from Donna Ralynn Brooks



Donna Raylynn Brooks is born again. She loves the Lord with all of her heart. She currently is a member of Northend Church of God in Christ in Detroit, MI where she has been a faithful member all of her life.

Donna has a passion for ministering to hurting people. She wants them to know that God can ***save, heal and deliver!***

Her motto is *"If God did it for me, He can do it for you! And the BEST is yet to come!"*

From Donna Ralynn Brooks A few scriptures for encouragement:

1 Corinthians 15:58,

2 Corinthians 4:17

Psalms 90:17



Acceptance

Doris Homan speaks

We all long for acceptance, belonging and respect. Acceptance starts with accepting ourselves, accepting God and accepting others. We can make or break our relationships, and our marriages by our perspective. What we focus on grows. If we dwell on the negative attributes in others, we will be miserable and grow bitter. Philippians 4:8 admonishes us to dwell on what is true, good, just, lovely, admirable.

Conflict is inevitable when you bring any two people into a situation, they come from different backgrounds, experiences, personalities and opinions. But the good news is conflict doesn't have to divide...conflict can be turned into connection but it takes skill and it takes being purposeful.

In the heat of a conflict, we need to put the brakes on....we need to insert space, walk away to process our triggers, our own defensiveness and pain. We start with processing our own feelings. What am I feeling (name it), why do I feel this way, normalize it, comfort, asking God to speak a gentle truth to us, determine what I would do different the next time. So notice that this process is therapeutic - it brings about healing, enlightening us on our situation and personal growth. (Self Respect steps - Greater Impact.org)

Once we deal with our hurt, allowing God to comfort us and speak that gentle truth revealing our part in the conflict (because let's face it it takes two, there's always some part that is ours to own) and processing through asking God for forgiveness and learning from it....we are then able to re-engage with the spouse or friend, or co-worker and have a much better chance for success in dealing with the situation.

We're now in a place where we respect ourselves, respect God and are able to respectfully approach the other person. We're not at a place where we see it's all their fault, criticizing, shaming or blaming. We remember how much God has forgiven us and in turn we are able to extend grace. To those who have been forgiven much, are able to forgive others. (Luke 7:47).

We can choose to hold on to our hurts, hold the grudge, and demand our rights. This path will lead us to bitterness and misery....we will be in a dark place OR we can choose to be wise, letting go of offenses - accepting others as they are, and extending them grace.

Jesus said *"Blessed are the meek for they shall inherit the earth."* (Matthew 5:5). Sadly we may think meek means weak but far from it. We can shake a fist at heaven and say 'Why God?' Or we can humbly ask our Father 'why God?' One is rebellious demanding answers while the other is accepting God is in control. Meekness is acceptance of what God has allowed, knowing His heart is love and it is always for me.

What does acceptance look like? Towards myself processing through my feelings and extending myself grace. Towards what God has allowed in my life. Towards others with respect, extending grace quickly.



STEPS TO SELF-RESPECT

1

Be fully in my Now.
What am I feeling? Why?

2

Be a loving, helpful friend.
It's normal that I feel this way. Can I simply sit with this feeling and allow it? Can I love myself right now?

3

Receive & give comfort & acceptance. Physically, verbally, healthfully, receive and accept comfort. We ask for comfort from God or others as needed.

4

Look for the Truth.
See different possible perspectives. What is revealed about my own character here? How is the other person experiencing this?

AND THEN . . .

1

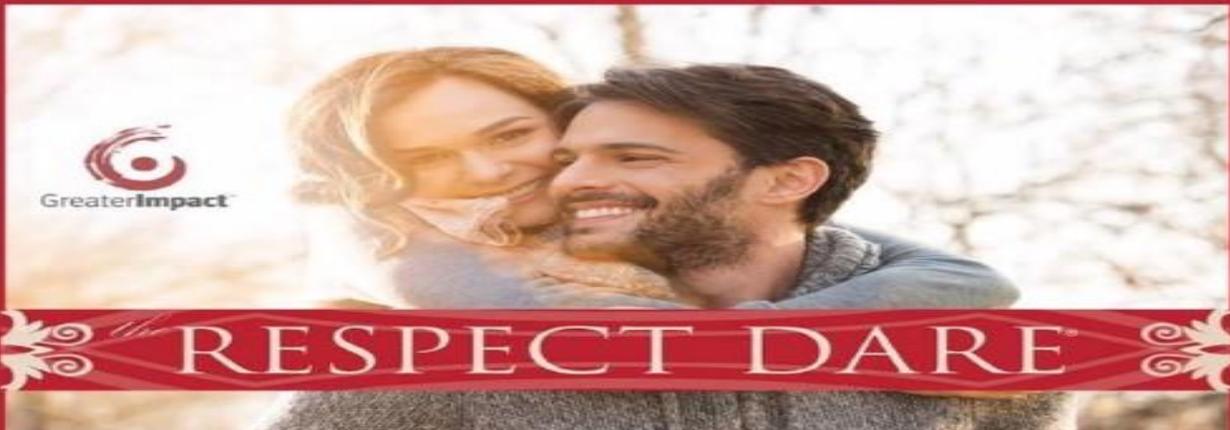
Take Responsibility
What is my part in this? What is mine to own? What do I need to ask forgiveness for? What do I need to forgive myself for as well?

2

Make A Commitment
What do I need to commit to doing in this situation? Can I lay down my need to be right? Can I choose to do better next time?

3

Lay Down Control
What do I need to lay down? What do I need to stop worrying about? Can I meditate upon where this need to control comes from?



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

IN LOVING MEMORY of
My beloved Father...

ELDER MINOR PALM, JR.

“A Sanctified Gospel Preacher”



February 5, 1926-April 8, 2010

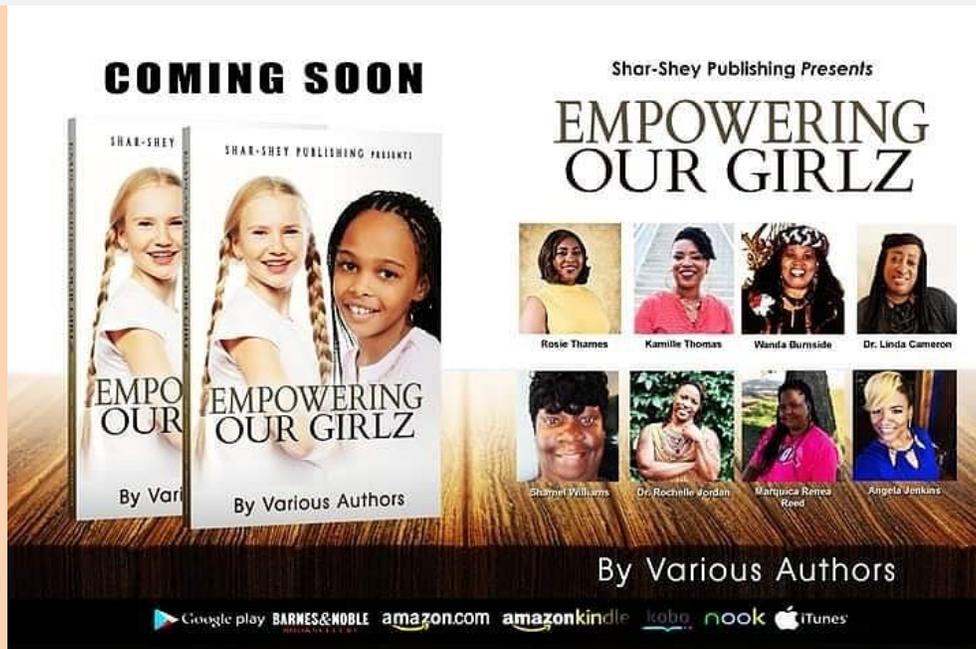
Loving husband married to Evangelist Willie Lee Palm for 54 years. Father of 3 children, Grandfather of 3 grandchildren, and Great-Grandfather of 3 grands.

Former Church and Community Leader for over 60 years.

Musician, Trumpeter, Songwriter, Composer and An-Award-winning Writer

--I truly love and miss you, Daddy...Wanda J. Burnside—

BLACK HISTORY MONTH HIGHLIGHTS!



Contact me concerning one of the newest books that feature my writing contribution. We offer life changing messages for our girls. Wanda J. Burnside, wvision@hotmail.com -313-491-3504.



Hair Love, which took home the award for Best Animated Short Film, was created by filmmaker Matthew A. Cherry, and tells the heartfelt story of an African American father learning — “with a little bit of work and a whole lot of love” — to do his daughter’s hair for the first time.

CONGRATULATIONS...

In 2019, African-American ladies won the Beauty Pageants.
They were crowned "Queen."

ZOZIBINI TUNZI, Miss Universe

TONI-ANN SINGH, Miss World

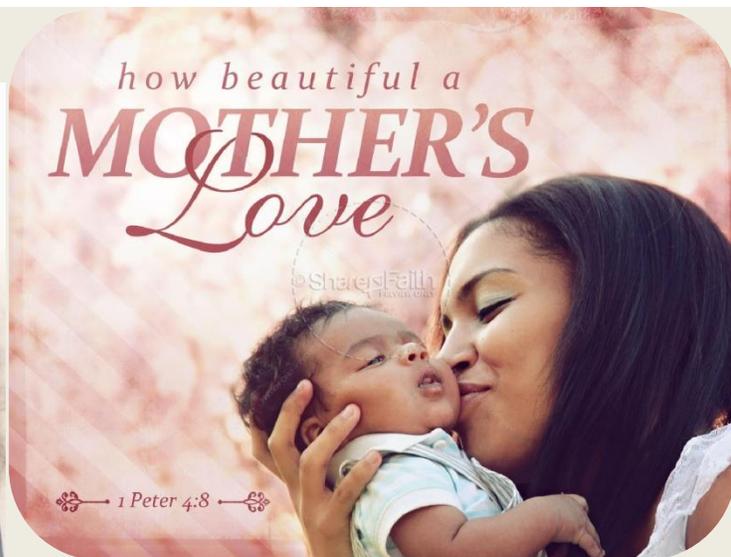


NIA FRANKLIN, Miss America

CHESLIE KRYST, Miss USA

KALIEGH GARRIS, Miss Teen USA

BEAUTY, TALENT, and PURPOSE!



Evangelist Kizzy Staten-Gary
NEW - Staff Writer

A Mother's Love

**A teenager bravely endured such overwhelming rejection
Determined to birth a baby she'd deeply love and demonstrate affection**

**Happy to have someone to love and call her very own
She's No longer just a kid for this baby girl has made her fully grown**

**The struggle and pain was definitely very real
Fighting to survive, maintain, move on and heal**

**Later on destiny would manifest to them a king
A knight in shining armor who'd present her a ring**

**Adopted the child and married the bride
Began to build a life together in good stride**

**Family soon expanded and here comes baby boy
The tides began to change and usher in so much joy**

**Raising, caring, nurturing with all of her heart
She's chosen by God right from the very start.**

**A mother's love stood and endured many tests of life
Saved by God's grace, redeemed, delivered and virtuous wife**

**Seasons change, time flies, and hair turns gray
Joyfully loving each grandchild both night and day**

**When the pain of Loved ones transition to their heavenly home
Mother's love remains consistent through every storm**

**As the sun rises every brand new day
New mercies reveal His sovereign way**

**Restoration takes place
All by God's sovereign grace**

**Hearts are overwhelmed by a mother's love
Truly a pure gift from the Father above!**

There's nothing like my mother's love!

Kizzy Staten Gray



With Our Sympathy and Prayers



Mr. Davarian O'Neal

Born: September 9, 1987

Died: February 7, 2020

Sympathy Announcement from Ramelle T. Lee:

Asking for your prayers for the O'Neal and Lee family. I am sorry to report the passing of **Mr. Davarian O'Neil**.

He was the dear oldest brother of my nephew **DeAngelo Lee**. Please keep his wife, Victoria O'Neal in your prayers. Also remember us in your prayers: my twin

brother, Reverend Lovell Lee and wife, Annette Lee and all of our relatives.

EVANGELIST GERTRUDE TRUDY HANSBERRY



Evangelist Trudy Hansberry went Home to be with the Lord in January 2020. She was an active member and loyal officer of The Called and Ready Writers in Detroit, MI. She served as: Second Administrative Assistant, CRW Secretary, Assistant Bookstore Manager, Registrar, and in other offices.

She was a poet, author, and storyteller.

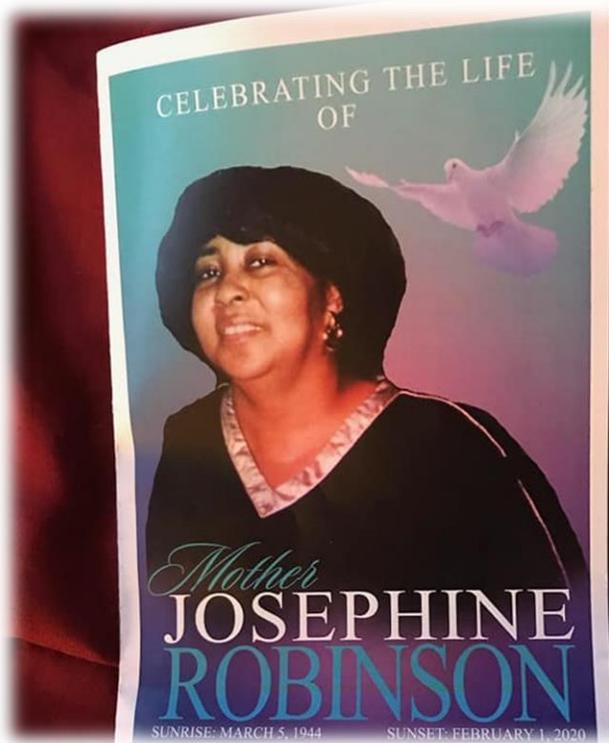
Trudy was an officer in TREASURES from HEAVENS MINISTRIES. She worked with the children's ministry.

She gave her life to church ministry and community service. Evangelist Hansberry was devoted and faithful to her church, WORD OF POWER MINISTRIES in Detroit, MI. She held many offices, but her main work was in the Women's Department and Sunday School as a teacher for seniors.

She dearly loved her daughter Kimberly and granddaughter Pantia.

Trudy was truly a "cheerful giver"! She gave all her time to serve the Lord!

With Our Sympathy and Prayers



MOTHER JOSEPHINE ROBINSON

March 5, 1944 –February 1, 2020

Mother Robinson was a lifelong friend of my family, the Palm family. Her family, Deacon Toll Johnson and Mother Mary Johnson, were very dear to us. Her other relatives, the Pratts, and the Davis families were close to us, too. We grew up as members of Greater Miller Memorial Church of God in Christ formerly Hartford Street Church of God in Christ in

Detroit, MI. At that time, our pastors were Bishop U. E. Miller and Bishop Earl J. Wright.

In later years, she was a member of Greater Mitchell Church of God in Christ in Detroit, MI. Bishop John H. Sheard was her pastor.

Mother Robinson was a very tenderhearted and caring woman. She was gentle and kind. She truly loved the Lord with all of her heart. She served the church in many areas. She was an usher, choir member, youth leader, Prayer and Bible Band leader, part of Women's Department, and Sunday School Department.

Mother Robinson dearly loved her beautiful daughter, Mary Lynette Hanna. They had a special mother and daughter bond relationship that glowed with respect, kindness and understanding. Their smiles and hugs were heartfelt. She also adored her grandchildren and the Saints of God.

Unbelievable! Horrific Death!

On Sunday morning, January 26, 2020, when I was eating a late breakfast with my husband, Simmie, the phone rang. I told the call because it was my friend, Ramelle Lee. She said, *“Isn’t it horrible about what happened to Kobe?”* I said, *“Who?”* *“KOBE! KOBE BRYANT...the NBA star! KOBE!”* Ramelle said.

“OH...NO! KOBE!” I shouted.

I put the phone on speaker and we heard Ramelle tell us the most unbelievable news... *“Kobe Bryant and his daughter, Gianna...dead..in an helicopter crash...today...this morning...it’s HORRIBLE...”*

Simmie looked stunned. He stopped eating and murmured...*“Kobe?”* And then he sat there...dropped his head... He got up from the kitchen table and went to the den and turned on the television...and there it was...**News! News! News! Reports.... “NBA STAR...NBA CHAMP...2 time Olympian Gold Medal...LA NBA Star....DEAD...He died with his daughter Gianna with him.”**

KOBE BRYANT was a rival of my husband because Simmie is a true Detroit Piston fan. But, Simmie honored Kobe for being KOBE a Basketball Superstar, an amazing player with great records.

But, nothing mattered...when you felt sick and shock when you knew his precious daughter, Gianna Bryant, was with him on this flight of death. The pain...and sorrow shocked...and hurts.



Basketball Player

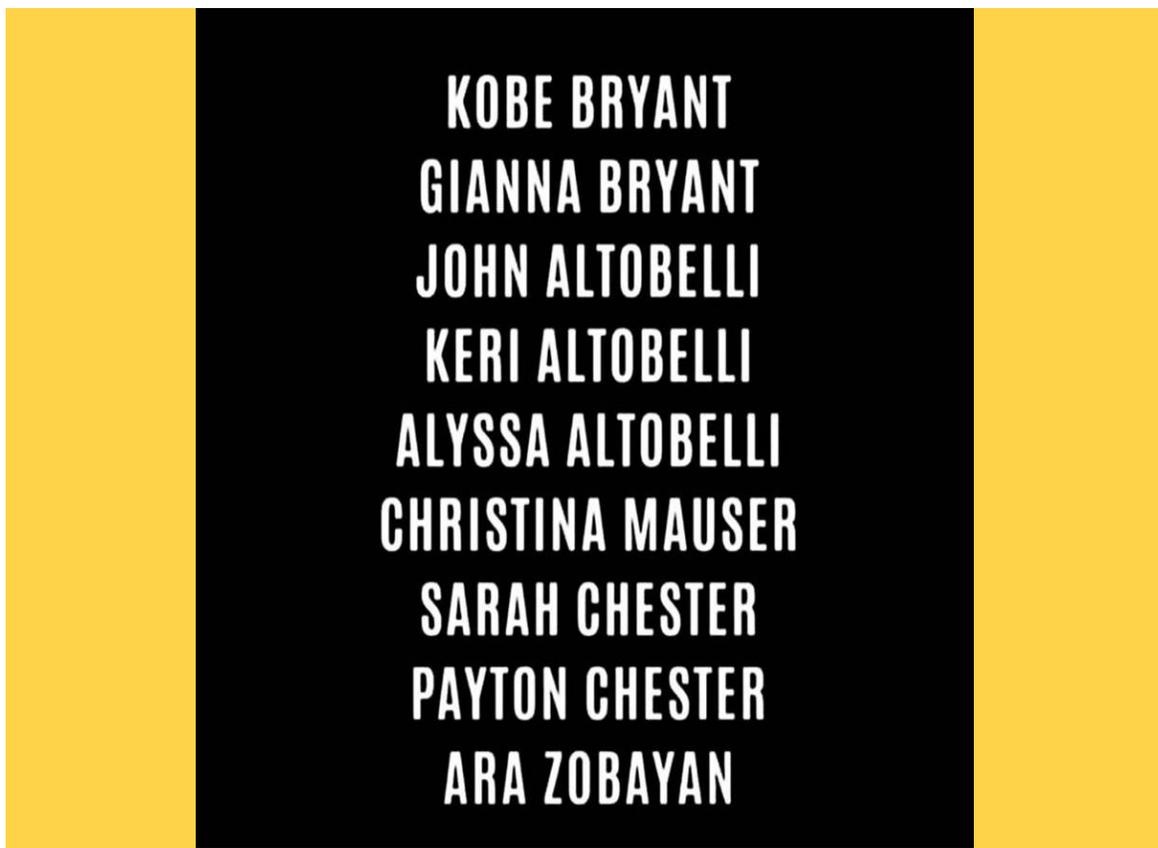
Kobe Bean Bryant was an American former professional basketball player. He played his entire 20-year career with the Los Angeles Lakers of the National Basketball Association. He entered the NBA directly from high school and won five NBA championships. Bryant was an 18-time All-Star, 15-time member of the All-NBA Team, 12-time member of the All-Defensive team and was the NBA's Most Valuable Player in 2008. Widely regarded as one of the greatest basketball players of all time, he led the NBA in scoring during two seasons, ranks fourth on the league's all-time regular season scoring and fourth on the all-time postseason scoring list. Bryant is the first guard in NBA history to play at least 20 season.

Kobe accomplished an awesome career as an All-Star Basketball Player. However, he touched me the most in his role as a father. You could see his love for his daughters. I love a man who loves his children, son (s) or daughter(s).



Kobe's daughter, "Gigi" (Gianna), was following his footsteps in basketball. She was achieving a record of her own. Gigi loved her dad and looked up to him.

On January 26, 2020, at approximately 9:06 a.m. [PST](#) (17:06 [UTC](#)), Bryant departed from [John Wayne Airport](#) (SNA) in [Orange County, California](#), in a 1991 [Sikorsky S-76B](#) helicopter, registration N72EX, along with eight other people: his 13-year-old daughter Gianna; her teammates, 13-year-old Alyssa Altobelli and 13-year old Payton Chester, and their parents Keri and [John Altobelli](#) (head baseball coach at [Orange Coast College](#)) and Sarah Chester; basketball assistant coach Christina Mauser; and pilot Ara Zobayan.^{[3][4][5][6]} They were heading to a basketball game at Bryant's Mamba Sports Academy in [Newbury Park](#), where Bryant was scheduled to coach Gianna's team. –Information from Wikipedia.



Let us also prayer for Kobe’s wife Vanessa and their other daughters. Don’t forget to pray for the other loved ones of the Altobelli, Mauser, Chester, and Zobayan families.



God Will Strengthen You

By Ramelle T. Lee ©2015

Meditation Scripture: Psalm 46:1 (KJV).

“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.”

God Almighty will strengthen you when trouble comes knocking at your door. He knows exactly what you need to weather the storm. Allow him to speak to your heart today and give you that conquering spirit to stand up and proclaim, “Mountain, move out of my way!” Speak to that mountain in your life and stand on the promises of God.

Never back down in the face of adversity. Always be strong in the power of God’s might. Know that he is with you and he is forever present. Keep your focus on the Lord, God Almighty, and be not dismayed at what is placed in your path.

Although the mountain of trouble is before you, understand that you have the Word of God in your mouth. Just speak up and demand that mountain to get out of your way!

Allow the anointing of the Holy Spirit to rise up in you and give you the courage to be bold to stand up and receive the strength you need to obtain victory.

Be encouraged this day. God will never leave you nor forsake you. Keep your trust in him and don't look to the right or to the left. He will be there right beside you to strengthen your heart. He will be there to keep you from falling into the traps of the enemy. He will be there to supply you with the courage to stay calm, even when the contrary winds are blowing in your life.

You shall have victory and you will survive the battle that is before you! No weapon will form against you, because the Lord will be your strong arm of protection. He will uphold you with his right hand, and he will give you the peace you need to be strong.

Never underestimate the power of God. Keep trusting his Word and he will give you refuge under my wings. He will be there to rescue you from distress that has come to give you a defeating spirit. He will send his angels to have charge over you and keep you from all harm. God is your refuge and a very present help in the time of trouble. Just hold on and he will make everything all right!

"God Will Strengthen You" is taken from my book, *"Step into His Greatness"* pages 113-115.



*To read more encouraging words and messages from Author Ramelle T. Lee, our staff writer, please go to www.amazon.com to purchase her books: *Step into His Greatness, Almighty God and For You...A Prayer for Our Family*. Also, God has blessed Ramelle to write numerous poems with a special message of hope and encouragement. You can contact her at: ramelleskip@aol.com.*



A message from Ms. Sandra Hickman - Australian Ministry Leader and Staff writer

Heart Shaped Bread ~

I took the slice of bread from the hot toaster, it was lightly browned and toasted just how I like it. It was the end piece, the crust. I like the crust. As I spread the butter, I turned the plate slightly. That's when I noticed that this crusty end piece of the loaf was shaped like a heart. A heart! Elongated and slightly misshapen, but it was a heart.

Now... many may not think much about this, but to me it brought forth thoughts about the significance of bread in the Bible, and of the heart. As I cut it in half following the length of the heart shape from its Cupid's bow dip at the top right-hand corner to the opposite corner peak diagonally at the crust at the bottom, it hit me even further ... the heart was now cut and broken.

Jesus referred to Himself as "the bread" ... ***"I am the bread of life."*** (John 6:35 NKJV). My mind is now thinking of how Jesus reminded me of the crust. In His final moments He said ... ***"It is finished!"*** (John 19:30 NKJV). Finished. The end. Just as the crust is the end or last piece of the loaf. So often it's the unwanted piece so many people discard. Most people like the soft fluffy-fleshy pieces in the middle, often excluding the hard crusty piece at the end. After all, life is better when it's soft. Isn't it? Who wants the craggy crusty pieces? Who wants to accompany the blood smeared Saviour with His beaten and bruised broken heart? His skin split open, looking like He was losing the battle? Who wants to share His cross? Who wants to take a broken crusty portion of His suffering? If you just shouted ***"I do!"***..... Congratulations! You just confirmed your marriage vows to the Bridegroom.

In Luke [22:19](#) NKJV, we read about the evening of the last supper ... ***"And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me."*** Split, cut and broken just as the communion bread is. We

break and cut it into pieces. In this remarkably prophetic gesture Jesus was breaking His own body and heart. It was broken for you, for me, and for all. All, who would say “I do!” The a foretold breaking was to begin at the whipping post with the breaking of His flesh beneath



the piercing nails and sharp bones of the Roman whip. Broken even more when the merciless crown of thorns dug into the flesh of His head. So many cruel acts of ‘broken’, leading to the nails of the Calvary cross-of-surrender. The Messiah’s final sacrificial brokenness to His Father and the whole of humanity. The Bread was broken ready to be passed out to all who would follow.

The devil thought he’d won. He thought **he’d** broken the Son of God. He thought **he** had succeeded. Oh foolish devil. Little did he know that the broken-bread Saviour was executing the breaking and tearing down of Satan’s plans, with every broken part of His own body. Just as Jesus already had crushed the head of the serpent in the Gethsemane garden, He was now crushing the devil’s grand plan of derailing the Christians in an attempt to drag them to hell.

Sometimes the Holy Communion can lose its holiness as it becomes a ritual. It was never intended to be a ritual, but rather an extension of Jesus’ love relationship with us. Oh the wonder of the bread and wine symbolising the breaking of the Bread of life, and the release of the fountain of His precious blood which covers all those who come to Him. Say, “I DO!”



Jesus is my true Valentine ♥ © 2020 ><> SLH



I will in **NO**
way leave
you

NEITHER
will I in any
way forsake
you

Hebrews 13:5

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