



Breaking Through Limitations

When the Philistines learned that David had been made king of Israel, they mobilized all of their forces against him to attack and enslave him, but David heard the news and moved to his fortified place. 1Chronicles 14:8-11.

There is always something trying to keep you on the level you're on or in the box that you are in. I've seen it plenty of times in the lives of people and my own. The good news is you can break out and break that limitation from your life. You can break free from being an employee to being an effective leader and employer. It's all about changing your perception and your mind on how you see yourself.

The mindset of an employee is a person that just wants to collect a paycheck. He simply wants to do the minimal requirement of being considered a good employee, then punch out and go home. When you switch to an owner mentality you begin to think like a leader and your aim becomes "how I can make this company better." In doing so, a level of respect, favor, and promotion will come. It's just a mindset change. You have to fortify your mind into believing you are the new person, the leader, the employer, etc. There will always be someone who will try to keep you on the same level or put you in a box, restricting your movement and progress. It's not what other people think of you, it's what you think about you that matters.

David had been promoted to his "Next" and the enemy came to stop him. He fortified his mind and faced the enemy. You must believe what God said about you and refocus your mind to that. Fortify yourself in what God said about you by renewing your mind and being around people that believe in you.

By Bishop Larry Mack Jr.

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Black History Month, A Road to Freedom

When I sat down to ponder who or what to write about regarding Black History Month, I looked at numerous individuals from as far back as the early 1800's. There are literally hundreds upon hundreds of individuals who were of some significant contribution to African American History and, or paved the way for the access that we have today.

The one thing that struck me while reviewing dozens of individuals, were people who at some point entered into higher education, and many of those renowned names passed through Oberlin College in Ohio, established in 1833. There may still be names that are unrecognized outside of the very popular names we often write about, but they are none the less, prominent and significant upon them passing through Oberlin on their way to breaking barriers.

In 1835, Oberlin College became the first predominantly white college to admit African American male students and two years later it opened its doors to all women, becoming the first coeducational college in the country. In 1858, students, faculty, and residents of Oberlin and nearby Wellington, Ohio rescued a runaway slave, John Price, from U.S. Marshals and transported him to freedom in Canada. The incident, which became known as the Oberlin-Wellington Rescue, received significant press coverage. Oberlin's commitment to the abolition of slavery made it a welcoming and safe environment for 19th century Black students. As part of the Underground Railroad, Oberlin's intricate network of back road routes and safe houses provided refuge for fugitive slaves bound for Canada.

In 1862 Mary Jane Patterson, who earned a BA degree in education from Oberlin, became the first African American woman to earn a degree from an American college. Other Black women had graduated earlier but did not receive a collegiate degree (BA). By 1900, one-third of all Black professionals in the U.S. had undergraduate degrees from Oberlin. Oberlin College continued to promote social and racial justice for the next century. During the early 1960s its campus chapter of the NAACP joined other activists in Cleveland sit-ins and boycotted Ohio businesses that practiced segregation. During the decade the college also invited civil rights leaders like Roy Wilkins of the NAACP and Malcolm X of the Nation of Islam. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. spoke at Oberlin on numerous occasions throughout the 1950s and 1960s.

In the 1970s, Oberlin College officials celebrated its abolitionist legacy with Cameron Armstrong's "Underground Railroad Monument," a sculpture of a railroad track emerging from the ground reaching skyward. The city's Martin Luther King Park contains other monuments honoring the Oberlin-Wellington Rescue and the Harpers Ferry Raid.

Over the years, Oberlin has also produced several prominent 19th and early 20th Century African American leaders including scholar William Sanders Scarborough, the first African American classical scholar and later President of Wilberforce University between 1908 and 1920. Others include Activist, Anna Julia Cooper; an author, educator, sociologist and speaker, as well as Mary Church Terrell, also an activist for civil rights and suffrage. More recent graduates include former Washington, D.C. Mayor Adrian Malik Fenty, and New York Congresswoman Yvette Diane Clarke. In 2010 the campus had 2850 students of whom approximately 10% were African American.

By Brother Karl Kersey





In Christ under Bishop and First Lady Blake. At that time, I also became close friends with the renowned gospel singer Dr. Judith 'Judy' McAllister," she shared. These relationships taught her life-changing spiritual principals and gave her a firm foundation. While attending an all-night "Praise-a-thon" at West Angeles, the Shekinah Glory of God manifested in full force. Sister Marsha was never the same after that.

"I committed my life to Christ and walked away from Hollywood. I wanted everything God had for me." Eventually, she returned to her Detroit roots where she met and married John Sanders. Together they began fulfilling the Lord's call on their lives.

In the summer of 2019 Sister Marsha attended the Greater Dreams Sisterhood Luncheon with her cousin, Deaconess Teri Williams. She fell in love with Greater Dreams and its members. "It felt like home to me. I knew I was in the right place," she said. Before joining, she introduced her husband to GDC. Equally impressed by the depth of the word shared by Bishop Mack, together they took the right hand of fellowship and have been in step with Bishop Mack and First Lady Regina's vision for the church ever since.

Using their unique gifts and talents to lead the remodeling of the church during the COVID-19 shutdown, they have been a tremendous blessing to GDC. Thanks to their labor of love, and the prayers and support of the saints, Bishop Mack's vision is being fulfilled. The church is now a beautiful edifice with a newly designed sanctuary, welcome center, and auxiliary offices that glorify the Lord and bless his people.

It really is no surprise that Sister Marsha would be involved in this project because she is "passionate about decorating and creating beauty wherever there is a need." She loves rhinestones and bling on everything and told her husband to be careful because if he went to sleep, he might wake up rhinestoned!

With plans to complete several more books, Sister Marsha is also launching a designer shoe and clothing line in the coming months. However, for the Sanders, their top priority is the launch of Shekinah International Ministries, LLC. A media-centered ministry, Shekinah International is focused on changing lives by changing mindsets through broadcasting, outreach, and practical humanitarian aid.

Sister Sanders is a testimony of what God can do when we surrender our lives to him. From Hollywood to entrepreneur, to minister of the Gospel, God has brought Sister Sanders through to the other side in victory. She has much to be thankful for, but she is especially thankful that, "God kept me...I don't look like what I have 'grown' through in my life!"

by Sister Jacqueline Robinson

Education: Certified and licensed Xray and Nuclear Medicine Technologist, University of Michigan.

Home: Westland, Michigan

What are your words to live by or food for thought? You have what you say...

What is your Favorite scripture? Death and life are in the power of the tongue... Proverbs 18:21-KJV

Born and raised in Detroit, Sister Marsha Jenkins-Sanders found herself far from home, living the celebrity lifestyle and married to a rising star.

"The allure of Hollywood was intoxicating. My life consisted of glamorous parties, rubbing shoulders with the rich and famous, and 'A-listers' on speed dial in my phone," she said. During this season, Sister Marsha became an award-winning lyricist with the hit song "Kissing You" which won a Soul Train Music Award for Best R&B/Soul Single and ASCAP Writer and Publisher awards for Top Ten Songs on the R&B Music Charts in 1991. Writing is another one of Sister Marsha's many talents. Her first of two novels, "The Other Side of Through," was published by Simon & Schuster and was adapted into a screenplay by Terry Coffey.

Despite outward success, inwardly and on the home front, trouble was brewing. Receiving the Lord at an early age, Sister Marsha knew about His faithfulness. So as her marriage began to disintegrate, and the glamorous lifestyle began to crumble, she knew where to turn.

"I started going to West Angeles Church of God

"What are you so happy about?" I asked my 101-year old great aunt one day. "I broke a mirror," she replied. "But that means seven years of bad luck." "I know," she said, beaming. "Isn't it wonderful?"

Submitted by Sister Yvonne Woodson

BIRTHDAYS

- Minister Elisha Smith- 12/2, Sister Kerri Shepherd- 12/5, Michal Mitchell- 12/7 (18 Yrs old), Sister Mignon Phenix- 12/7, Minister Dennis Thompson- 12/18, Sister Vera Mayberry- 12/20, Sister Jacqueline Robinson- 1/8, Sister Antoinette Goodloe- 1/11 (Toledo), Sister Andria Hood- 1/21, Sister Shareese Mitchell- 1/22, Sister Reanetta Nix- 1/24, Brother Randy Smith- 1/24 (Toledo), Sister Marjory Goodloe- 1/27 (Toledo), Sister Sherita Mandisa- 2/1, Sister Samantha Doyle- 2/3, Brother Randy Mason- 2/6, Minister Rickie Constantennia- 2/6, Minister Kwakou Mandisa- 2/12, Jaden Jefferson- 2/16 (Toledo), Sister Nandi Mandisa- 2/20, Sisters Alyssa Neal & Cher Mallette- 2/21 (Toledo), Sisters Jenai & Renai Whitmore- 2/22, Brother Chris Johnson- 2/23 (Toledo), Sister Pauline Peterson- 2/24, Brother Devon Dotson- 2/27 (Toledo)

ANNIVERSARIES

Brother Carl Robinson & Sister Jacqueline Robinson 1/15 (39 Yrs)

SPECIAL VALENTINE

I am the sweet-tart in His mouth that He never spits out. I am the candy of His eye, the Potter's prized creation. I am the love of His life, evidenced by His actions. I love you back Lord, keeper of my soul and salvation. Because He loved me more than I ever loved myself, He stepped in and saved my life when I was headed for certain death. He wrapped His arms around me to comfort and to shield. Protecting me from myself, the world and bad things yet revealed. I am His special Valentine!

by Sister Nandi Mandisa

Donations to Fresenius Kidney Care in Toledo OH

I would like to take this time to thank Greater Dreams Church, Toledo and Michigan Campus, W.I.N.G.S. women's ministry, and Dr. Thea Hines Foundation for your loving support to Fresenius Dialysis Center. Your service to this underprivileged community was felt through the donations that was so needed. Again, God bless your ministry!

By Stephanie Hensley, RN Manager



PRAYING: SENDING PRAYERS OF HEALING AND RESTORATION TO:

Wayne Campus

- Minister Michael Mitchell - Loss of his grandmother
Sister Kerri Shepherd / Sister Pauline Lawrence / Mother Paulette Johnson - Loss of their mother / sister / cousin
Brother Matthew Mason - Loss of best friend, David Grier

Toledo Campus

- Elder Neil Goodloe (Antoinette & Jonathan) - Loss father and mother
Sister Donnelle Ware - Loss her aunt
Sister Shanna Lee - Loss her sister and sister-in-law

