



FROM THE HEART: BE RESILIENT

Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Isaiah 41:10

Marcus Aurelius often meditated on the fact that life was full of battles. He felt like he was always coming out of one battle and going into another. He also believed we are always at war; within ourselves and with those around us. Marcus knew if he was going to enjoy a quality life, he could not let situations get to him. He had to build a way of thinking that put his mind at peace, regardless of what was going on around him. Through study of the greatest minds of his day and practice, Marcus mastered the discipline of controlling his state of mind and his emotions; refusing to allow circumstances to affect his mental state. Learning to keep his peace in good and bad times, Marcus decided how he would feel—not the circumstance or situation.

Like Marcus, we also face daily battles. However, we have a greater advantage over the battles we face because we have the world's greatest leader, of all time, on our side. We have the mind of Christ and His wisdom and knowledge far exceeds that of the greatest minds that ever lived.

No matter what battles we face today, and in the future, we have a prepared victory; so be RESILIENT and be at peace. Don't let your circumstances get you down. Be a doer of the Word. Practice the discipline of keeping your mind stayed on Jesus, victory, and the truth of the Word of God. Today is not a day for weakness. It is a time to be resilient. The Word of God says, "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

By Bishop Larry G. Mack Jr.

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A Woman's "Footprint" is Her History

Representation matters! A "footprint" we can identify with inspires us; which is why hearing stories about the "footprint" of women—especially our mothers, grandmothers, and great grandmothers—matters; this is our history from which we draw inspiration. We are empowered by being reminded of the trials and triumphs women, past and present, have faced. When we look back, we gain perspective on moving forward.

The term "footprint" is synonymous with the impact of human behavior on history. From the beginning of time, women have left an extraordinary "footprint" on history through monumental sacrifices, successes, and failures. Campaigns to recognize these historical movers and shakers are limited, and yet their stories are so vast we need a month (at minimum) to highlight what they have accomplished!

In March, time is set aside to celebrate female history makers—"she-ros" and those who are unsung. Since 1897, Women's History Month, observed annually in March, is thirty days set aside to acknowledge and celebrate women's contributions to history, culture, and society. And, with the purpose of bolstering the importance of women who are accomplished, days like International Women's Day celebrate the gains that women, of all diversities, have made and measures how far women have come.

Writer and educator, Myra Pollack Sadker, once said, "Each time a girl opens a book and reads a womanless history, she learns she is worth less." History helps us discover who we are and has a huge impact on our own personal lives. When we do not know our own history, if we cannot "see" ourselves in history, our power and our dreams are diminished. Learning what the women who came before us gained and loss in all facets of life—science, community, government, literature, art, sports, medicine—strengthens our resolve.

Space explorers, pilots, political activists, artists, groundbreaking designers, and a Vice-President fought courageously to become history makers in their careers. What they went through to obtain their triumphs are "footprints" we can identify with and learn from. Telling the full stories of women—not just the inspirational parts—gives those who come after... strength, power, and motivation to succeed.

Representation matters! "Footprints" we can identify with inspire us! Despite what historical narratives tell us, a woman as "she-ros", rebels, and leaders is not unrealistic; it's reality. Including women in the stories told about the past creates a place for women in the stories that will be told about the future. As Women's History Month and International Women's Day acknowledge female trailblazers who have smashed glass ceilings...and those who are still trying; it is important to explore their human behavior and its impact—their "footprint"—so that we have a full appreciation for who they are and what they did! Why? Because A Woman's "footprint" is Her History...and step by step...her history changes the world!

By Sister Marsha Jenkins-Sanders

Member Highlight: Jaden Jefferson



If Jaden Jefferson could've pinched himself, he still wouldn't have believed it. "I was pretty excited to learn that I was going to be on Ellen DeGeneres' show. I was shocked," said Jaden. "It was a very hectic time and we were trying to keep it under wraps until it aired."

It was unusual for an 11-year old from Toledo to be on the Ellen Show, but then Jaden is a very unusual person. News has always been his passion for as long as he can remember. Now nearly 13, he's parlayed that passion into a "career" that has received international attention. "I have been watching the news since I was tiny. I never found video games interesting, they never appealed to me," said Jaden. Instead, he and his parents watched the news on TV together every night. "It benefits me personally to know what is happening, I'd feel clueless if I wasn't watching the news."

Eventually Jaden started creating video shorts and blogs about what was happening in his local community. Politics, current events, sports...you name it, Jaden was covering it. He created his own YouTube channel that is now followed by 6,000 people and a Twitter account followed by 30,000 people.

National fame, however, came knocking on Jaden's door in the summer of 2019. That was when Senator Elizabeth Warren came to Toledo for a campaign event. Jaden was in the crowd when Kurt Steiss, a photographer with the Toledo Blade, offered him a spot on the press platform. "I was just happy to be there," Jaden said.

Jaden ended up getting an exclusive interview with the senator, which caught the attention of national media. Things took off from there and media requests for interviews and appearances came pouring in. Jaden has appeared on MSNBC, CNN, Fox News, Live with Kelly and Ryan, and many other media outlets. He's also interviewed his share of celebrities and prominent people.

Even with national attention and celebrity interviews, Jaden is still committed to covering local news in his hometown because that is where he feels his reporting has an impact. He posts several news stories a week to his YouTube channel. He's able to handle this and his schoolwork because he's become quite proficient at juggling multiple tasks. "I prioritize my schoolwork first, and then I can move on to whatever is happening in the news," Jaden said.

The future is bright for Jaden. He hopes to attend an Ivy League college like Harvard or Princeton or a school that specializes in journalism like Syracuse. After that, he'd like to report for smaller markets, and then move on to covering national news for a major network. In the meantime, Jaden has been tapped by Sky News in the UK to do a feature for children on the American inauguration process, and a similar opportunity is in the works with the A&E Network.

Jaden fuels his inspiration by attending Greater Dreams, Toledo Campus. "From day one when I started attending the church, I always liked the message, and the music is inspiring and motivational," he said. Jaden knows the Lord is moving in his life and he doesn't take it for granted. "I am a grateful person. I am grateful for what is happening in my life."

by Sister Jacqueline Robinson

TOP 3 INTERVIEWS

- Brad Pitt
- Oprah Winfrey
- Ohio Senator Sherrod Brown

WISH LIST FOR INTERVIEWS

- President Joe Biden on COVID resources
- CDC Director Rochelle Walensky on ending the pandemic

IF HE COULD INTERVIEW SOMEONE FROM THE PAST...

- JFK because he was a very progressive person
- Nixon because he was a scandalous person

HONORS & AWARDS

- Lucas County UMADAOP Federation, Helen Postell Award
- Inducted as an honorary member of the Press Club of Toledo
- NAACP Freedom Fund Award

Youngest member of the Society of Professional Journalists

BET Future 40

BIRTHDAYS

- Sister Stephanie Dupree- 3/1 (Toledo), Sister Ericka Curtis- 3/2, Sydney Harris- 3/3 (7 Yrs Old) (Toledo), Sister Britney Johnson- 3/5, Brother Akeem Coker- 3/5 (Toledo), Sister Gladys Miller- 3/7, Cailey Johnson- 3/10 (4 Yrs Old) (Toledo), TyLiyah Lamb Walker- 3/22 (3 Yrs Old) (Toledo), Sister Lawana Williams- 3/24, Sister Angela Hopkins- 3/26, Sister Phyllis Leverett- 3/28, Minister Brenda Hailey- 3/29 (Toledo), Sister Chimere Marshall-Tyler- 3/29, Brother Jonathan Goodloe- 3/30 (Toledo)

ANNIVERSARIES

- Brother Randy & Sister Michelle Smith (1 Year) (Toledo)

POET'S CORNER: Hosanna (Palm Sunday)

He rode into Jerusalem on a lowly donkey, the perfect picture of peace and humility. He wore not the crown of world kingdoms, but that of The Kingdom of Heaven's nobility.

Just as the red carpet is rolled out in Hollywood, the palms were laid on the ground before Him. He was recognized for the King that He was, "Immanuel!" they called out, because God was with them.

His shed blood paid the price for our sin debt, Twas His cup to swallow; would not be thrust aside. He drank it freely, being The Lion and The Lamb, so that we could be delivered from sin...justified

He is the Savior of the whole of mankind, He is the Deliverer from evil of all manner. He is King of Kings and Lord of all Lords, He is The Messiah, The Christ... Hosanna!

by Sister Nandi Mandisa

Mr. E's Mobile Shoe Shine Service



On 2/22/21, Minister Elisha Smith was featured on the Kelly Clarkson TV show for being innovative during this COVID-19 crisis. With 15 years in the business, and led by God, he continued his passion for servicing his clients shining their shoes by converting a 16 passenger bus into an upscale Mobile Shoeshine business with the slogan, "If the shoe fits, shine it." The business is Mr. E's Mobile Shoe Shine Service, phone number is (248) 229-6373 and email is mreshoes@yahoo.com

PRAYING:

Sending prayers of healing and restoration to: Jennifer Glenn, wife of Sister Nandi Mandisa's cousin, Fred Glenn, succumbed to the Corona Virus.

SAVE THE DATES

FREE COMMUNITY BROWN BAG LUNCH
Every Tuesday Starting March 2nd @ 12Noon to 1PM;
Contact Sister Dea Mason, (734) 578-5443
For Additional Information.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS
March 14 at 2 AM

PALM SUNDAY
is March 28

THREE DAY FAST
is March 31 to April 3

GOOD FRIDAY
is April 2

EASTER SUNDAY April 4, Wayne Campus
will have 2 Services; 9 AM & 11 AM.

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