

“THE WORD OF GOD IS THE GATEWAY TO HEAVEN

By Reverend Dr. Carlton Jones

Text: John 1:1-5; In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men (& women). And the light shines in darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

(The first Church service at Gateway To Heaven Christian Church will be at 5000-3 Norwood Ave, Jacksonville, Florida 32208 at 8:30 AM Sunday January 8, 2012.)

God has been preparing me to Pastor a Church and like many persons who have been called, I have been in denial and have run from my calling with multiple excuse. When God called Moses to lead his people out of bondage, Moses said that he was not a good speaker. When God called Jonah, he ran and jumped on a ship and was swallowed up by a big fish. Jonah could not out run God. I too have been swallowed up and have received the anointing and power of God through Jesus Christ the Son and the power of the Holy Spirit.

Throughout the Bible God has been calling men and women to serve in the Kingdom of God, yet we all want a sign or have to be knocked off a horse and blinded like Paul. God chooses ordinary men and women to serve Him. God can take an ordinary person and bless them with extraordinary gifts in order that He will get the glory.

My story is no different however; God has been patient and has molded me into what He wants me to be. God has also planted men and women who have allowed me to be a part of several awesome ministries.

I am blessed to serve as Chairman of the War on Poverty with Karen Landry President and Executive Director. The War on Poverty a not for profit ministry that's goal is to improve the quality of life at every level of human existence; from childhood obesity to financial literacy; from developing not for profit collations cross the state to around the world through education and social empowerment.

Gateway to Heaven Christian Center is a ministry that is designed to identify the needs of the Body of Christ within the Church community and assist the Church in meeting that need through educational training.

We have worked with Gods Men and Women's ministry lead by James and Claudette Bryant. They have focused on the ex-offender program along with Sheriff John Rutherford.

God has also allowed me to work with some great religious leaders; Bishop Rudolph W. Mckissick, Sr., Pastor Michael McConnell, Father Peter Church, Bishop Von McLaughlin, Pastor Landon Williams, Bishop McKinley Young, Pastor James Sampson, Pastor H.T. Rim, Elder Lee Harris, and the late Reverend Daily to name a few. I can get into trouble when I start naming people, but each of these men has played an important part of my growth and development through their own ministries.

I am blessed, to share this ministry with Reverend Dr. Walter Johnson. An awesome Preacher, teacher, musician, and lover of people. We are excited about what God is going to do.

We are both 62 years young and we are serious about preaching the Eternal Word of God. In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God. The Word of God is the Gateway to Heaven.

Our goal is to serve the un-Churched folks who are hurting, lost, and confused. Gateway to Heaven Christian Church is a Hospital, that through the Word of God will heal the broken hearted and restore the whole person through the power of the Holy Spirit.

The devil's plan for our lives, is to subtracts, and divide from God's creation plan for our lives. Adam and Eve allowed the devil to introduce them to the fruit from the tree of knowledge that allowed their free will to know the difference between good and evil. The devil divided and subtracted from God's plan for Adam and Eve. He introduced them to sin. Sin separates or divides us from having a personal relationship with God.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ restored a spiritual relationship with God the Father, through Jesus Christ the Son, and by the aid of the Holy Spirit. We want to show God's creation how to live life more abundantly through His Word.

Gateway to Heaven Christian Church's mission is to add and multiply the



blessings of life through the Word of God. God created us and knows exactly what we need and when we need it. Through the Word, we will develop a closer relationship with God the Father, through Jesus Christ the Son and the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Gospel of John 1:1 starts out with; In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He starts from the moment of creation and moves to the creation of humanity that contemplates eternity.

Jesus Christ the Son and God the Father are one and the Deity is one. Jesus was there in the beginning in Genesis 1:26 then God said, Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness, let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth. John establishes the deity of Jesus as in the beginning of creation. God breathes the Spirit of God (life)

through the nostrils of Adam and created a living being in Genesis 2:7.

God has given us access through the Word of God to sustain us and meet all our needs to live life more abundantly here on earth. Two key words in this scripture are light and life. God spoke into existence and Let there be light; and God breathed the Spirit of God into Adams nostrils and created a living being.

Our life and all that we depend on needs light that gives life. And light shines in darkness. The devil hides in dark places and the light of God shines down in to those dark places and leads us to His marvelous light. Jesus came to show us the way.

We are dependent on God for life. Our existence, spiritually and physically, depends on God's sustaining power. Many of us can testify about how the light and life of Jesus has transformed our lives from darkness into His marvelous light.

I can remember when I was deep in sin and Jesus showed me the light, I can remember the times I have been on my deathbed and Jesus reviled the light and healed me. I can remember when I was legally blind and Jesus restored my sight. I can remember when I sinned against God and He had me read the 51 Psalm verse 4; Against You, You only have I sinned and done this evil in your sight.

Jesus was criticized for going into those, dark place where people were hopelessly lost and shined His marvelous light. Too show them the way out of darkness, but many still do not comprehend Him. Gateway to Heaven Christian Church wants to shine the Light of God and restore the Life of God into all that will receive the Word of God. We have gone into those dark places and remain committed to being change agents. GOD will provide the souls and restore them unto eternal salvation.

Pray for Gateway to Heaven Christian Church to meet the needs of God's people through the Word of God. Pray that we will become, a blessing in assisting in the building the Body of Christ here on earth. Pray for us as we embark on this awesome mission.

Jesus came through the Father to restore a personal relationship with His people. Jesus came to show them through the Word of God how to live life more abundantly. However, Jesus own people denied Him, and Jesus then opened up the Word to include the Gentiles so that we can experience eternal Salvation.

Jesus was beat, humiliated, and crucified for our sins. Jesus died and on that third day rose from the grave with all Power over all sin, sickness, disease, and death, so that we would have an opportunity for eternal life with God the Father, through Jesus Christ the Son and by the Power of the Holy Spirit. Jesus walked the earth for 40 days to show the doubting Thomas's that He was alive. Jesus then ascended to Heaven to sit on the right hand of the Father to serve as an intercessor for our sins. However, Jesus did not want to leave us comfortless so He sent the Holy Spirit who is Omni present to dwell with us and never leave us. Hallelujah, this is the good news of the Gospel of Jesus the Christ, the King of kings, and the Lord of lords, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, and Hallelujah. Happy Birthday Jesus, a new Christian Church, has been birthed. *Amen*

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