



A Note from Pastor Larry E. & First Lady Mrs. Lillie M. Allen

If you're reading this newsletter, it's January 5, 2020 or later, and the good news is, you've been spared for another year (smile); and, what was the present is now the past; and, what was the future is now the present. In other words, last year is gone and there is not a thing that you can do to change it. And yes, we know that there are some things that you've done that you wish you hadn't done; there are some opportunities that you've missed that you wished you hadn't missed; and, we are aware of the fact that there was time that you've wasted that you wish you could redeem, but there is nothing that you can do to change the past.

With all of this in mind, let's look in the Word of God and read what the Apostle Paul said in **Philippians 3:13-14 (KJV)** about the past, the present, and the future. Paul says, "Listen saints, I'm an Apostle, and I still haven't **"apprehended"** (reached perfection) but I'm working on it! And to be perfectly honest with you, I'm really not too worried about it! Why? This one thing I do, I forget about the things that happened in **the past**, and I reach for **the future**, **"I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus"** (Philippians 3:14 KJV).

So what is the Apostle Paul instructing us to do? Paul is instructing us to forget about where we've been (our past failures & past accomplishments) and start planning and preparing for our future.

What are some of the things that we should forget about as far as the past is concerned? If we've sinned, we should take time to genuinely repent and sincerely confess our sin(s); if our sin(s) have hurt others, we should humbly apologize and ask for their forgiveness; and then, we should receive the forgiveness, and **move on!** If we've been sinned against, we should forgive those that we feel have sinned against us in the same way that Christ Jesus has forgiven us and **move on!** And since God has forgiven us, we should forgive ourselves, and **move on!**

Well, now that we've handled the sin problem (so to speak), we can look at other areas of our lives that we should forget and move on. So let's assume that we've failed or experienced failure more than we think that we should have. Since we've failed, we should call it what it is: its failure! Now that we've called it what it is, and in an effort to avoid failing in the same area or areas again, wisdom would tell us to find a person that is more knowledgeable and more experienced than we are, and ask this person to help us see where and why we failed; and then, we should make the necessary adjustments, and any and all corrections, and of course, move on! Now we're ready to do the things that should be done to cause us to have a successful and prosperous New Year in the eyes of God. And what are some of the things that we should do?

One, we should remember that God says that He has a plan for us (**Jeremiah 29:11 & 33:3 KJV**). Two, we should take time to have a conversation with God about the plan that He has for us! Three, we should take time to sit down and develop the plan and set some goals. As we're developing the plan and setting goals, it is important for us to make sure that our plan is in line with and falls under the guidelines and authority of the Word of God as written in **Matthew 6:33**. Now that we've developed the plan and set some goals, it will be easy for us to establish priorities that will enable us to successfully accomplish the things that we've planned. Four, just before we go any further, it will be important for us to meet with God again and get His permission to put our plan in motion. As soon as we're confident that God has given us permission to put our plan in motion, we are ready for step five. And step five is (the scary and the fun part) putting our plan in motion or to going for it! As we're "going for it", we need to make sure to give God the freedom that He likes to have so He can give us the guidance, direction, and of course, make any and all changes necessary so the plan will be His plan and not ours. And finally, as we're carrying out this God given plan, and we begin to hear footsteps from the past, we must remember that we're in a race, and instead of looking back at the footsteps of the past that we hear, we'll keep our eyes on the finish line and we'll **"... press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus"** (Philippians 3:14 KJV).

In closing, we pray that you'll follow the instructions that have been given from the powerful Word of God, that you'll formulate a plan, set some goals, process and analyze the plan, develop the priorities, discuss the plan with God, and once you've discussed the plan with God, and you have His permission to put the plan in motion, you'll get yourselves ready to have one of the most fantastic years that you've ever had.

Pastor Larry and Mrs. Lillie M. Allen



Brother Dennis Rogers, Minister of Music

HOPE... in HIM!

While searching my Bible app for topics for this article, I got to thinking, what is the most important thing on most people's minds today. I have to think that **Hope** must be one of the things that everyone wants to believe is important. We hope for peace, prosperity, good health, and all the things associated with it! Nobody says it better than God! (Jeremiah 29:11) ***"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end"***. I then started a "hope" word search and was overwhelmed by the hundreds of verses that referred to hope. (Hebrews 11:1) ***"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen"***. That was it, we have no hope without faith. God gives us the faith to believe, and hope is faith in Him! Wow, it really is that easy! Sometimes life just throws more at us than we can handle, but we are not alone. Our faith and hope is in Jesus! He will bring us through!

Here's my prayer for you and me, that 2020 brings us more hope through increased faith in Christ Jesus! Love you all and Happy New Year New Life saints!

M.O.M. Dennis Rogers 😊

*Where is God leading **YOU** to Serve?*

Go to www.nlbcabq.org

To complete your spiritual gifts test!

GET CONNECTED

Are you looking for a way to get connected and involved in the Ushers / Greeters Ministry?



We are

*Just looking for
a few good men.*

**To GET INVOLVED, please contact
Brother Ernest Vigil @ 440-9376**



Pastor Stanley Robinson Jr.



Jesus and Me!

"J.A.M"



Please have your PreK4 – 5th graders

join us every Sunday morning at **9:30 am**

10:30 am Jesus & Me "JAM" Children's Church

Every Wednesday at 7:00 pm for Bible Study

Every Sunday Morning



9:30 am – Sunday School w/ Senior Pastor Larry E. Allen

10:30 am – Youth Group (6th – 12th) w/ Pastor Stan



Every Wednesday Evening

@ 7:00 pm - Youth Group



✈✈✈✈ Hello **NLBC**, may I have your attention please!! On behalf of the **NLBC SECURITY TEAM** welcome to **Flight #2020** We are prepared to take off into the New Year. Please make sure your Attitudes and Blessings are secured and locked in an upright position. All self-destructive devices should be turned off at this time. All negativism hurt and discouragement should be put away. Should we lose altitude under pressure during this flight, stop reach up and pull down a Prayer. Prayers will automatically be activated by **FAITH**. Once your **FAITH** is activated, you can help assist with other passengers. There will be **NO BAGGAGE** allowed on this flight. The Captain (**GOD**) has cleared us for a safe take off. Now sit back and wait to land in the Destination of **HOLYNESS**. So if you want to board **Flight #2020** with the NLBC SECURITY TEAM, your boarding pass and ticket are now available to you. So come take this Flight with us! **Warriors In CHRIST** 🙏🙌🙏🙌🙏🙌🙏🙌 R.C.



STANDING ON THE WORD OF GOD

Pastor Landjur Abukusumo

OUR PERPETUAL WARFARE

The warfare between our spirits and our flesh never relents until we understand ourselves. Our flesh is continually flooded with worldly demands for basic creature comforts, shelter, and safety. The world has little time for Godly standards of morality or fairness. Small print on contract agreements illustrates the degenerate level humanity has sunken to in business. The concept of “alternate facts” takes us to a deviant level, eliminating any thought of generally-acceptable terms or reasonably-arrived at conclusions. As human beings, we view ourselves as fleshly beings instead of spiritual ones, addressing our trials, tribulations, and problems from a material standpoint. But in actuality, we are spiritual beings experiencing a material existence, clothed with a fleshly body and made a living soul. The Bible teaches *“And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea...”* and *“And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul” (Genesis 1:26; 2:7)*. Our self-deception of what we are as flesh instead of spirit creates our internal warfare. Our battles begin in our minds as we are bombarded by the fiery darts of the Devil that seep into our hearts as we believe them. We are to take the shield of faith to ward off these thoughts that the Apostle Paul identifies as darts. Scripture instructs *“Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked” (Ephesians 6:16)*. These random thoughts and sinister ideas that cloud into our minds seemingly from no where are not born from our personal experiences or anything we know. We hear ourselves questioning where these thoughts come from and how we come to think them and why they persist at the most inopportune moments. This persistence characteristic is the most dangerous aspect of these devilish attacks. They pound us into exhaustion and seize our smallest acquiescence to lodge their evil in us, couched behind seemingly unimportant and unrelated ideas. The more we think these thoughts indirectly and subtly, the more they fester and become rooted in our consciences. If the Devil and his demons can cause us to create these strongholds of doubt and rebellion fulfilling our natural desire for autonomy, they can then appeal to these patterns of thought as if they are valid and true. This relentless beguiling recedes, appearing to end, only to revive the attack with greater intensity. The Devil knows that if he can corrupt a person and trick him or her into continual sin then God will respond as Scripture reveals. *“And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient; Being filled with all unrighteousness...” (Romans 1:28-29a)*. Not until we have the Word of God in our mouths and the Son of God in our hearts will we know the battle is not ours. Scripture promises *“...Thus saith the Lord unto you, be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God’s” (2 Chronicles 20:15b)*.



We are excited to be able to start this New Year with a **New Wellness Ministry**.

NLBC Wellness program will be designed to provide our members with a foundation for integrating health awareness, healthy living prevention tips and as we grow will have engagement sessions/activities, speakers, workshops and eventually church and community based clinics – all based on the Word of God to help equip members with Christ-centered education to ensure we understand that health is as an integral part of serving God,

Vision and Scriptural principles

1. We are to be good stewards of our bodies (*“... a temple of the Holy Spirit ...”*) in ways that glorify Him.

(1 Corinthians 6:19-20)

2. We were made by God with a body, mind, soul, spirit. The greatest command is to *“... love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.” (Mark 12:30)*. Our goal is to minister to the whole person, integrating physical, spiritual, emotional, mental, and social health and wellness.

3. We are told that Jesus came *“... that they may have life and have it to the full/abundantly.” (John 10:10)*. Might that not include the whole of our lives and not merely the spiritual? We want to help people experience that by helping people learn to prevent problems that could affect the rest of their being.

We look forward to the year ahead and pray the Lord will use us to not only help others but to help ourselves be all that he has called us to be.

~Amen~

Roshell Chisolm



Pastor Johnny McChriston



**“Weekend to Remember” is
February 21-23, 2020**

Hyatt Regency Tamaya Resort and Spa
1300 Tuyuna Trail
Santa Ana Pueblo, NM 87004

Special Event room rate: \$152/night if reserved
before 1/31/2020 at 867-1234

Conference Cost:
\$350/ couple

Group and early registration discounts available,
please contact Pastor Johnny with any questions
at 505-269-5396.



A note from...



EVANGELISM:
Sharing Christ With Others

Brother Adam Jacobs, Evangelism Director

New Year, New Opportunities to be used by GOD

As we enter **2020**, we want to encourage you to see this new year as coming with new opportunities - new opportunities to be used by God and to see the power of the gospel at work. There are three specific areas in which we can ready ourselves for those opportunities:

1. Pray

Spend time in prayer this year on how God wants you to respond to the many opportunities that will present themselves. Allow God to prepare you, soften you and give you his perspective on evangelism.

Prayer is the first critical step to being an effective ambassador. ***"Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving"*** (Colossians 4:2)

Jesus says that without his enabling presence and grace, we are useless, unable to produce any fruit (John 15:5). We must be fully dependent on him, recognizing our inability and trusting in his strength.

Without prayer, we'll be spinning our wheels in our evangelism efforts. Only God can bring life.

"So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase." (1 Corinthians 3:7)

2. Prepare

Make the most of the opportunities God will give you this year by preparing yourself practically for them. Make sure you know the gospel well enough to be able to explain it clearly. Don't wait until there is a God-given opportunity to share and then scramble for resources. Have yourself and your resources ready beforehand.

"..and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:" (1 Peter 3:15) *cont'd to top right*

Continued from left ... New Year, New Opportunity to be used by GOD!

3. Position

Determine to position yourself strategically this year. This means to be both available and active, intentionally being in places or situations with potential opportunities for sharing the gospel. Here are five ways it can practically play out in our day-to-day lives, along with a few real-life testimonies of how it has been done by others.

A. Get involved - Look for ways to get involved in your community and neighborhood.

B. Make friendships - Proactively build friendships with your neighbors and co-workers, whether going out for coffee or helping them out in practical ways.

C. Foster trust - Remember that faith in Jesus is all about trust. We need to trust in the reputation and work of Jesus on the cross.

D. Share in their lives - Position yourself to be involved in the lives of others, whether it is their joys and struggles, live events or crises.

E. Share the gospel - This is where it all comes back to: actually leading someone to understand the gospel for themselves. Whether it is giving a book or guiding a course, choose to actively share the gospel in the circles and situations the Lord has placed you in. He will give the needed creativity and wisdom if we are available and ready. We are ambassadors. We carry an incredible message of redemption and life to a confused and hurting world. And it is our job description and privilege to share it. Let us live in such a way that the world will know that there is such a person as Jesus. The opportunities to share his salvation are endless. Let us be ready—immersed in prayer, fully prepared, and in position—to meet the opportunities this year.

Live for Jesus!!

Come join us for our Baptismal Service



Sunday, January 26th at 4:30 pm

West Mesa Aquatic Center

6705 Fortuna Road Northwest, ABQ, NM 87121

Baptism Sunday is a time of celebration for us to support our candidates -

You may ask – **What is Baptism?** Baptism is an outward expression of an inward faith, it's also a public declaration that you've decided to join the family of Christ.

You've put off your old identity of sin and slavery and have taken on a new identity – one of our freedoms in Christ! (**Ephesians 4:22-24**)

If you'd like to know more information about Salvation and Baptism, please contact one of our pastors in service or by calling 505.352.2628.

Please join us in prayer and support for our Baptismal

Candidates!

Ms. Roshell Chisolm

Adriana Jones

Ryan Jones

Dakotah Jones

Trell Wiersema Jr.

Mariah Wiersema

Jordan Wiersema

We look forward to seeing you there!