



*Walking in the Spirit of Excellence*

# THE MESS<sup>enger</sup>

*Mount Moriah M&B Church*

July 2024 Edition



## Welcome to the Church Messenger Newsletter

Greetings, Mount Moriah Missionary Baptist Church Family!

We are delighted to welcome you to the latest edition of the MMMBC Newsletter. This publication is designed to keep you informed, inspired, and connected with our church community.

In this issue, you will find an article on divine timing, other inspiring articles, and important announcements. We aim to celebrate our shared faith and the wonderful work God is doing in and through our church.

At MMMBC, we believe in the power of community and fellowship. As it says in Hebrews 10:24-25, "And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together... but encouraging one another." Through this newsletter, we hope to strengthen our bonds and encourage one another in our walk with Christ.

Thank you for being a part of our church family. We pray that this newsletter blesses you and helps you feel more connected to our church's mission and activities.

Blessings,

The MMMBC Newsletter Ministry

WE ARE  
KINGDOM  
REPRESENTATIVES



Here we are, then, speaking for Christ, as though God himself were making his appeal through us. We plead on Christ's behalf: let God change you from enemies into his friends!

2 Corinthians 5:20 (GNT)

# Divine Timing and Completion as Kingdom Representatives

## Divine Timing and Completion as Kingdom Representatives

In our journey as Kingdom Representatives, understanding and trusting in divine timing is essential. It is through this trust that we can faithfully fulfill our purpose, complete our tasks, and manifest God's will on Earth. The Bible is rich with examples and teachings about God's perfect timing and the importance of completing the work He has set before us.

### The Wisdom of Divine Timing

One of the most profound truths we can grasp as believers is that God's timing is perfect. Ecclesiastes 3:1 tells us, "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens." This verse reminds us that every event in our lives happens according to God's divine schedule, not our own.

Patience and trust in His timing are essential. Isaiah 40:31 promises, "But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint." When we align ourselves with God's timing, we find renewed strength and purpose, even in periods of waiting.

### Jesus: The Ultimate Example

Jesus Christ is the ultimate example of living according to divine timing. His ministry on Earth was marked by a keen awareness of God's perfect timing. In John 2:4, Jesus tells His mother, "My hour has not yet come," indicating His understanding of when He was to begin His public ministry.

Throughout His life, Jesus remained attuned to the Father's will, culminating in His sacrifice on the cross. Galatians 4:4-5 explains, "But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship." Jesus' life and ministry were orchestrated according to God's perfect plan and timing, leading to the ultimate completion of His mission.

### Our Role as Kingdom Representatives

As Kingdom Representatives, we are called to follow Christ's example by trusting in God's timing for our own lives. Jeremiah

29:11 reassures us, "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope." Embracing this promise allows us to move forward with confidence, knowing that God's plans for us are good and purposeful.

Completing the tasks God sets before us is a critical part of our role. Colossians 3:23-24 instructs us, "Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ." By committing ourselves fully to our God-given assignments, we honor Him and fulfill our roles as His representatives on Earth.

### The Assurance of Completion

Philippians 1:6 provides a powerful assurance: "Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." This promise assures us that God, who initiated the work within us, will see it through to completion. Our responsibility is to remain faithful and diligent, trusting in His guidance and timing.

Additionally, Hebrews 12:1-2 encourages us to persevere: "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith." By focusing on Jesus and the example He set, we can endure and complete the race set before us.

### Conclusion

As Kingdom Representatives, embracing divine timing and committing to the completion of our God-given tasks are vital components of our spiritual journey. By following the example of Jesus, trusting in God's perfect timing, and dedicating ourselves to His work, we fulfill our purpose and bring glory to His name.

Let us be encouraged by the words of Ecclesiastes 3:11: "He has made everything beautiful in its time." In every season and every moment, God's timing is perfect, and His plans for us are beautiful. May we walk faithfully in this truth, confident that He who began a good work in us will bring it to completion.

# Independence and Freedom in Christ as Kingdom Disciples

## Independence and Freedom in Christ as Kingdom Disciples

### Introduction

As Kingdom Disciples, the concepts of independence and freedom in Christ are foundational to our faith and daily walk. These principles are not just abstract ideas but are deeply rooted in the teachings of the Bible, offering believers a transformative way of living. This article explores what it means to have independence and freedom in Christ, supported by key scriptures.

### The Source of Our Freedom

The Bible clearly teaches that true freedom comes from knowing and following Jesus Christ. In John 8:36, Jesus says, "So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed." This freedom is not merely an escape from physical bondage or external constraints but a profound spiritual liberation from sin and death.

Paul reinforces this in Galatians 5:1, where he writes, "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery." Here, the "yoke of slavery" refers to the legalistic adherence to the Mosaic Law and the bondage of sin. Through Christ, we are freed from these burdens, enabling us to live in the fullness of God's grace.

### Independence in Christ

Independence in Christ means relying on Him alone for our salvation and sustenance. It is a departure from self-reliance and a complete dependence on God's provision and guidance. Proverbs 3:5-6 instructs us, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

This independence is also reflected in our identity. In 2 Corinthians 5:17, Paul declares, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!" Our new identity in Christ empowers us to live independently of our past sins and failures, fully embracing the new life He offers.

### Living as Kingdom Disciples

As Kingdom Disciples, our independence and freedom in Christ

compel us to live differently from the world. Romans 12:2 admonishes, "Do not conform to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will." This transformation is a continuous process of becoming more like Christ in our thoughts, actions, and attitudes.

Furthermore, our freedom is not for self-indulgence but for serving others in love. Galatians 5:13 reminds us, "You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love." This verse encapsulates the essence of Christian freedom: it is a freedom that seeks the good of others and glorifies God.

### The Role of the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit plays a crucial role in guiding and empowering us to live as Kingdom Disciples. 2 Corinthians 3:17 states, "Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom." The Spirit not only liberates us from sin but also empowers us to live out our calling as disciples.

Through the Spirit, we receive the strength to overcome temptations and the wisdom to navigate life's challenges. Galatians 5:16-18 encourages us, "So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law."

### Conclusion

Independence and freedom in Christ are transformative gifts that redefine our identity and purpose as Kingdom Disciples. By embracing these truths, we are liberated from the bondage of sin, empowered to live out our faith authentically, and called to serve others in love. As we continue to grow in our relationship with Christ, let us stand firm in the freedom He has given us, relying on His guidance and living out our calling with boldness and grace.

# Healthy Vision Month: A Time for Spiritual and Physical Clarity

Healthy Vision Month is an annual observance dedicated to promoting the importance of eye health and regular vision care. In addition to focusing on the physical aspects of maintaining good vision, it's also a perfect opportunity to reflect on spiritual vision, guided by Biblical scriptures. Just as we care for our physical eyes, we must also nurture our spiritual eyes to see clearly the path God has laid out for us.

## The Importance of Physical Vision

Our physical eyes are essential for interacting with the world around us. They help us navigate, recognize loved ones, and appreciate the beauty of God's creation. Regular eye exams, a healthy diet, protective eyewear, and good habits are crucial for maintaining eye health.

**Proverbs 20:12** reminds us, "The hearing ear and the seeing eye, the Lord has made them both." This verse highlights that our ability to see is a precious gift from God, one that we should cherish and protect.

**3 John 1:2** says, "Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers." This verse emphasizes the importance of physical health, including our vision, as part of our overall well-being.

## Caring for Our Physical Vision

1. **Regular Eye Exams:** Just as we check our spiritual health through prayer and scripture, regular eye exams are crucial for detecting issues early and maintaining healthy vision.

2. **Healthy Diet:** Foods rich in vitamins A, C, and E, along with omega-3 fatty acids, can help maintain eye health. **Genesis 1:29** states, "And God said, 'Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat.'"

3. **Protective Eyewear:** Wearing sunglasses and protective eyewear can prevent damage from UV rays and injuries. **Proverbs 22:3** advises, "The prudent see danger and take refuge, but the simple keep going and pay the penalty."

## The Importance of Spiritual Vision

Just as our physical eyes need care, our spiritual eyes require attention to see God's truth clearly. Spiritual vision allows us to discern God's will, avoid spiritual pitfalls, and stay focused on our heavenly goals.

**Matthew 6:22-23** teaches, "The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are healthy, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eyes are unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness!" This scripture underlines the importance of spiritual clarity.

**Psalms 119:18** says, "Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of your law." This verse is a prayer for spiritual insight and understanding, highlighting the importance of seeking God's wisdom.

## Enhancing Our Spiritual Vision

1. **Prayer and Meditation:** Spending time in prayer and meditating on God's Word helps to clear our spiritual vision. **Philippians 4:6-7** encourages us, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

2. **Studying Scripture:** Regular study of the Bible enlightens our spiritual understanding and keeps us aligned with God's will. **Psalms 119:105** states, "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

3. **Community and Fellowship:** Engaging with a faith community can provide support, encouragement, and accountability. **Hebrews 10:24-25** advises, "And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

## Conclusion

Healthy Vision Month is a reminder to take care of both our physical and spiritual vision. As we seek to maintain clear sight physically, let us also strive for clarity in our spiritual lives, guided by Biblical wisdom. By nurturing both aspects of our vision, we honor the Creator who has blessed us with the precious gift of sight.

Let us commit to a holistic approach to vision care, recognizing that true clarity comes from seeing the world through the lens of God's love and wisdom.

# Juvenile Arthritis Awareness Month: Recognizing the Signs and Seeking Prevention

## Juvenile Arthritis Awareness Month: Recognizing the Signs and Seeking Prevention

July is Juvenile Arthritis Awareness Month, a time dedicated to raising awareness about a condition that affects nearly 300,000 children in the United States alone. Juvenile arthritis (JA) encompasses various autoimmune and inflammatory conditions that can cause joint pain, swelling, and other serious symptoms. Understanding these symptoms and exploring preventive measures, while seeking spiritual guidance, can provide comfort and direction for affected families.

### Symptoms of Juvenile Arthritis

Recognizing the symptoms of juvenile arthritis early can lead to better management and outcomes for children. Some common symptoms include:

**Joint Pain and Swelling:** Children may experience pain, swelling, and stiffness in their joints, which can worsen after periods of inactivity or upon waking up. Psalm 34:19 reassures us, "The righteous person may have many troubles, but the Lord delivers him from them all."

**Reduced Mobility:** Difficulty in moving joints, which may limit a child's ability to perform daily activities. Philippians 4:13 reminds us, "I can do all this through him who gives me strength," encouraging perseverance and faith.

**Fever and Fatigue:** Persistent fever, fatigue, and a general feeling of unwellness can accompany joint symptoms. Isaiah 40:31 offers hope, "But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

**Eye Problems:** Some forms of juvenile arthritis can cause eye inflammation, which, if untreated, can lead to vision problems. Psalm 32:8 provides comfort, "I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you."

### Prevention and Management

While the exact cause of juvenile arthritis remains unknown, certain measures can help manage and potentially prevent the

severity of its symptoms. Combining practical steps with biblical wisdom can be empowering for families facing JA.

**Healthy Diet and Exercise:** A balanced diet and regular physical activity are essential in managing arthritis symptoms. Proverbs 3:7-8 advises, "Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and shun evil. This will bring health to your body and nourishment to your bones."

**Medical Care and Treatment:** Regular check-ups with a healthcare provider, early diagnosis, and adherence to prescribed treatments can greatly improve quality of life. Jeremiah 33:6 offers reassurance, "Nevertheless, I will bring health and healing to it; I will heal my people and will let them enjoy abundant peace and security."

**Stress Management:** Stress can exacerbate symptoms, so finding ways to manage stress through prayer, meditation, and supportive relationships is crucial. Matthew 11:28-30 invites us, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

**Support Networks:** Engaging with support groups and connecting with others who understand the challenges of juvenile arthritis can provide emotional and spiritual support. Hebrews 10:24-25 encourages us, "And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

### Conclusion

Juvenile Arthritis Awareness Month is a vital opportunity to spread knowledge about this challenging condition. By recognizing the symptoms early and implementing preventive measures, families can better manage juvenile arthritis. Leaning on biblical scriptures provides spiritual strength and hope, reminding us that we are never alone in our struggles. Let us take this month to educate, support, and pray for all the children and families affected by juvenile arthritis.



# In the Spotlight: Mount Moriah Missionary Baptist Church's Youth Ministry

## Empowering the Next Generation for Christ

At Mount Moriah Missionary Baptist Church (MMMBC), our Youth Ministry stands as a beacon of hope and inspiration, dedicated to nurturing the spiritual growth and development of our young members. Through engaging programs, meaningful activities, and heartfelt fellowship, our Youth Ministry aims to empower the next generation to live out their faith with confidence and purpose.

## A Foundation in Faith

The foundation of our Youth Ministry is built on the teachings of Jesus Christ, encouraging our youth to grow in their relationship with God. Proverbs 22:6 reminds us, "Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it." We take this to heart by providing a solid spiritual foundation through worship services tailored specifically for our youth.

## Engaging Activities

Our Youth Ministry offers a variety of activities designed to engage and inspire our young members. These activities are not only fun but also foster a sense of camaraderie and teamwork.

Through these experiences, our youth learn valuable life skills and the importance of serving others, reflecting the teachings of Philippians 2:4: "Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others."

## Looking Ahead

As we look to the future, we are excited about the continued growth and impact of our Youth Ministry. We are committed to creating new opportunities for our young members to grow in their faith, develop their talents, and make a difference in their communities. With God's guidance and the support of our church family, we believe that the future is bright for the youth of MMMBC.

## Get Involved

We invite all young people to join us and be a part of this vibrant ministry. Whether you are looking for a place to grow spiritually, make new friends, or develop your leadership skills, the Youth Ministry at Mount Moriah Missionary Baptist Church is the place for you. Together, let's build a strong foundation of faith and create a community where our youth can thrive.

## WORSHIP SERVICES AND CLASSES

Life Class	Sundays	10:00 a.m.
Worship Service	Sundays	11:00 a.m.
Noon Day Bible Study	Wednesdays	12:00 p.m.
Bible Study	Wednesdays	7:00 p.m.
Power Hour of Prayer	Saturdays	8:00 a.m.
Holy Communion		First Sunday of Each Month

## THIS NEWSLETTER IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY — THE MMMBC NEWSLETTER MINISTRY

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