



**What's INSIDE**

A publication of Touch by the Word Ministries Apostolic Center



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**HOW** you can **HELP**

You are invited to be part of something special. This is not just a church but a movement. Come and see what God is doing in our midst!

1 Corinthians 4:15

**The Impact of Fathers**

For years there has been a conflicting narrative surrounding the roles of fathers. The Holy Bible provides clear guidance on the roles of the father and the mother. Unfortunately, society has redefined these roles. It should not be shocking that the prison population has exploded to epic proportions! Gang violence, truancy, and a general lack of respect for authority has drastically increased.

I remember the popular song from 1972 by the Temptations entitled "Pappa Was A Rolling Stone!" Tragically, it appears the song was prophetic. The number of men stepping up to fulfill their role as father is diminishing. Since the roles and responsibilities associated with fatherhood are somewhat distorted, this should not be a surprise.

It is important that we return to the one source which gives the critical information to get back on course. The Holy Bible provides insight on God's expectations of fathers. Many may not agree with the narrative presented in this article. It is important to remain open to suggestions that may offer insight into the healing of splintered families, the resolution to the degradation of our neighborhoods, and the restoration of the family unit as God intended.

To appreciate this analogy, the Holy Scriptures must carry some level of significance. Otherwise, the information will carry any weight. God specifies the gender specific differences within the context of marriage (Genesis 1:27, Genesis 5:2; Matthew 19:4; Mark 10:6).

Our narrative takes us to the beginning (Genesis 1:28). God provided clear guidance to the first couple, Adam, and Eve in the Garden of Eden. This was the roadmap for parenthood. Adam and Eve were involved in a collaborative partnership with God. The Creator of marriage drew clear lines of separation and there was to be no deviation.

The role of the man was identified in the beginning. God installed Adam as the leader. The relationship between Adam and Eve was of mutual respect and admiration (1 Peter 3:7). Eve was to stand alongside her husband as his assistance (co-leader) to exercise oversight over God's creation. God created the first couple with reasoning capabilities to make decisions.

God expected Adam to lead the family by example (Genesis 2:15-17). Fathers are expected to lead and guide their families (Genesis 18:18-19). Fathers were

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**Monthly Scripture**

**Matthew 11:28-30**

<sup>28</sup> Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup> Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. <sup>30</sup> For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.





Joel 2:28-29 (KJV)

<sup>28</sup> And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: <sup>29</sup> And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit.



**Sunday Mornings:**

Discipleship Class: 9:00—10:00

First Step: New Members Orientation 9:00

Worship Service: 10:30

**Wednesday Nights:**

First Step: New Members Orientation 6:30

Training Center 6:30—7:30

**Intercessory Prayer:**

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays 9:00—10:00

## The Impact of Fathers (Cont.)

created to shoulder the responsibilities for the family. Fathers will be held accountable by God regarding our leadership or the lack thereof.

Fathers are required to provide guidance and direction for their children (Genesis 35:2-7) as to the importance of serving God. Unfortunately, this responsibility has been left up to mothers. It's time to correct the order. Mothers are an integral part of the family unit and rightly so. Too many fathers have abdicated their responsibilities and the results have been devastating!

It is the father who engenders and protects the family. The father is called upon to provide insight and guidance.

Fathers provide wisdom and instruction to their children concerning their relationships with others (Proverbs 1:10-19, 2:1-12). The absence of fathers has resulted in the recruitment of our youth, especially males into gang activity. Gun violence, among the youth, has reached epic proportions. The decline in the moral and ethical action of the youth can be contributed to the absence of the father.

But there is hope! This is a short narrative that describes just how important the father is to the family unit. Out communities are crying out to the fathers to return to their rightful place as the spiritual leader, prayer warrior and priest of their households. There is hope!

## Love For the Brethren

Love is an attribute which motivated God to redeem humanity. Jesus, the Son of God, demonstrated the greatest act of love known to mankind (John 15:13). Jesus served as an example as to how we are to demonstrate our love for God (Matthew 22:37). Our love for God must be complete and all-encompassing!

God demonstrated His love for us first (Romans 5:8; 1 John 4:19). This is rather

significant when you fully understand the depth of God's love for us. God requires no less of us when it comes to loving our fellow Christians.

Violating the principles of love toward the brethren is dangerous! The Holy Scriptures identify the distinct value God places on walking in love (1 John 2:9, 11; 1 John 3:15; 1 John 4:20). God loved us so we can love others!

## The Prayer Room

Matthew 11:28-30 is a powerful invitation from the Lord! This invitation encourages us to connect with God. He desires for us to maintain an open line of communication. All God ask from us is to accept His open invitation!

The world in which we live in is increasingly more difficult to navigate. Individuals rely on social media in place of real sustainable relationships. Through it all, one thing remains constant. God still wants to hear from you. Have you checked in with the Father lately? He's standing by waiting to hear from you. God is just a prayer away!



## Stay Connected?

If you are not connected, then you're missing out! Please ensure that the church has your latest contact information. We connect with our members through text, email, newsletters, Facebook, etc. You don't want to miss out on upcoming events and activities. Please update your information by sending an email to [tbtwministries@gmail.com](mailto:tbtwministries@gmail.com). Stay connected so you can be informed!

Do we have your



## Pentecost Sunday

Pentecost occurs approximately fifty days after Easter (Jesus' resurrection). Easter is considered a pagan holiday. The Jewish community celebrates the feast of First Fruits (Leviticus 23:9-14)! The feast of First Fruits serves as a type and shadow of Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection!

Through our study of the Jewish holidays and feast, we gain insight into God's redemptive plan for humanity. While Pentecost is normally associated with Acts 2:4, the significance of this important day has been unjustly minimized.

Acts 2:4 provides insight into the manifestation of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit manifested as promised by God

(Joel 2:28-29). The apostles in the Upper Room (Acts 2:1) were aware of Joel's prophecy (Acts 2:17-21). Why is this important? Pentecost brought forth the promise of the Holy Spirit but also represented the birth of the Church. God, through the apostles, began the transitioning of the Jews from the Mosaic Law.

God began to reveal Himself to the Gentiles. This represents the Sovereignty of God as His divine plan manifested. As the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ traveled, we reap the rewards as a recipient of God's grace. We have received Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior!

## As A Man Thinks

The Bible declares that the way we think impacts us (Proverbs 23:7). The way we think governs the manner we carry out our daily responsibilities. If my thoughts impact my life to this degree, it's important that we manage what we meditate on. The Bible provides guidance as how we can manage our thoughts.

Our acceptance of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, regenerated our spirits. Our minds did not change. The task to renew

my mind takes considerable effort. The renewing of my mind requires a lot of hard work. To be successful, I must line up my mind with the Word of God (Romans 12:2). We must be intentional with our thoughts so we can think on things that are productive (Philippians 4:8). There is a direct correlation to the way we think and what we can achieve. Therefore it is imperative to think positive thoughts. Meditate on that!

## Accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior

Eternity cannot be measured! The average individual is consumed with the "now!" But it is important to think beyond the moment and to consider eternity. Why?

God is eternal (John 4:24), therefore He is unaffected by time. God created man for eternity (John 3:16)! To enjoy God perpetually, each of us is required to decide on our future. The decision

we choose carries eternal implications.

Life doesn't end when we take our last breath (Hebrews 9:27). The decision we make impacts where we spend eternity. God did not make this difficult!

Receive Jesus as Lord and Savior and we will spend eternity with God. The alternative to reject Jesus (John 3:17-18) is tragic and eternal! What's your decision?

May I never boast except in  
**THE CROSS OF  
 OUR LORD  
 Jesus Christ,**  
 through which the  
 world has been  
*crucified*  
**to me,**  
 and I to the  
**WORLD.**  
GALATIANS 6:14, NIV

The world that we live in is rapidly emerging. It is important to consider your eternal soul. It is time to consider eternity! This is not a test. You only get one choice!

*Blessed be*  
 THE GOD AND FATHER  
 OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST,  
 THE FATHER OF MERCIES AND  
*God of all comfort.*

2 CORINTHIANS 1:3, ESV



## Celebrating Your Special Day

Sister J. Scott	11 June	Bro. E. Maxwell	20 June
Elder R. Neville	12 June	Bro. J. Williams	24 June
Sister A. Davis	14 June	Deacon M. Davis	30 June
Min. M. Fellows	18 June	Sister R. Rawls	30 June



## Upcoming Events

We are excited to announce some upcoming events that are sure to galvanize our members and to bring unity for the community. The church is transitioning from its Sunday morning Bible Class to the Discipleship Class. Additional information will be forthcoming. We are excited!

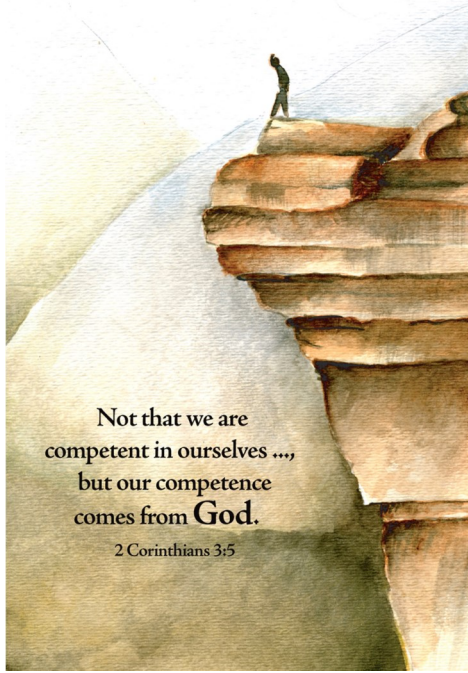
On Saturday July 30th, Touch by the Word Ministries Apostolic Center will host the *Single and Free* luncheon. The objective is to assist singles to celebrate their singleness.

On Saturday September 10th, the Women with Purpose Prayer breakfast will convene after a two year hiatus. There's more! The church will host its first Women Conference on the night of September 10th. Get ready as God continues to expand our borders to bring change to the region!

### Touch by the Word Ministries Contact Information

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Not that we are  
 competent in ourselves ...,  
 but our competence  
 comes from **God**.  
2 Corinthians 3:5

# Puzzle!

Answer each statement by circling the letter in the correct column. Then write the circled letters on the numbered lines below to complete the biblical word.

	TRUE	FALSE
1. Naomi is Ruth's mother.	D	(R)
2. Ruth is a Moabite.	T	P
3. Naomi wants Ruth to leave her and return to Moab.	N	L
4. Orpah is Naomi's hired hand.	H	S
5. Boaz lives in Bethlehem.	C	B
6. Boaz is a farmer.	U	V
7. Ruth makes a living begging at Bethlehem's gates.	X	E
8. Boaz instructs his field workers to leave extra grain for Ruth to glean.	E	J
9. Boaz invites Ruth to eat with the harvesters.	R	Q
10. Boaz is related to Naomi.	I	W
11. Boaz refuses to marry Ruth.	F	R
12. Ruth is the great-grandmother of King David.	O	G
<b>R</b>	9	12
7	4	6
1	11	8
5	2	10
3	12	3

Answer: 1. R, 2. T, 3. N, 4. S, 5. C, 6. U, 7. E, 8. E, 9. R, 10. I, 11. R, 12. O; RESURRECTION