

The Life and Ministry of Rev. Augustus Leon Freeman, Sr.

Rev. Augustus Leon Freeman, Sr. is the fourth child born to Ernest and Delores Freeman in Mobile, Alabama, on August 1, 1961. Interestingly, his birth date places him under the zodiac sign Leo, the Lion. Over the years, some have assumed that his parents chose the name Augustus Leon because of its resemblance to “August Leo.” However, the inspiration behind his name is rooted in a much deeper spiritual connection. Rev. Freeman was named after two preachers: Dr. Edward Augustus Palmer and Dr. Leon Taylor.

Dr. Palmer served as pastor of the Freeman family’s church and was also a mentor to Rev. Freeman’s father. He had been chosen to serve as Augustus’s godfather but passed away before Augustus was born. Subsequently, Dr. Leon Taylor was called to pastor the church and became Augustus’s godfather. His parents honored both men by combining their names, Augustus and Leon, to give him the name Augustus Leon Freeman, Sr.

Dr. Leon Taylor would have a profound influence on Rev. Freeman’s life and spiritual journey. He vividly recalls an evening Holy Communion service when, at the tender age of six, he experienced an overwhelming sense of God’s presence. Although he did not fully understand what was happening at the time, he remembers responding to the encounter by stepping forward and asking to be baptized.

Even as a young child, Rev. Freeman displayed signs of his future calling. On many Sundays after church, he would drape a bath towel over his shoulder to serve as a preacher’s robe, position a cardboard box as a makeshift pulpit, and preach to his sister’s dolls.

Reflecting on those early years, Rev. Freeman shares, “I think I knew God had His hand on my life, but I certainly tried to ‘live the life’ without that consideration. Love is patient.”

The Call to Ministry

At approximately 19 or 20 years of age, Rev. Freeman experienced a defining moment while reading his devotional Scripture. His attention was drawn to Mark 16:15, which commands believers to proclaim the Gospel: “Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel.” As he read those words, the phrase “*Preach the Gospel*” seemed to enlarge on the page, bringing a deep conviction to his heart. During this season of his life, he developed an intense hunger for the Word of God.

Shortly after this encounter, Rev. Freeman felt compelled to visit his godfather, Dr. Leon Taylor, in Mobile, Alabama. During the visit, he asked Dr. Taylor to share the story of his own call to ministry. Dr. Taylor responded, “One evening after church, the Lord gave me a vision in the clouds. I saw the Scripture, ‘Go ye therefore, into all the world and preach the gospel.’”

The striking similarity between Dr. Taylor’s experience and Rev. Freeman’s own encounter with Scripture undoubtedly made the conversation especially meaningful.

His spiritual journey continued when his brother, Rev. Ernest L. Freeman, Jr., invited him to Roanoke, Virginia, to spend time with him. During that visit, Rev. Freeman was introduced to deeper truths concerning the Holy Spirit. As he prepared to return to Atlanta, Georgia, his brother and others arranged for Apostle Lorraine Alston to take him to the airport, helping establish a connection that would prove significant in the years ahead.

Eventually, Rev. Freeman became a member of Abundant Life Church, where he served under the leadership of Pastor Woodrow Walker, Jr. It was there that he was ordained as a Teacher, marking another important milestone in his spiritual development and preparation for ministry.

Marriage, Family, and Ministry

In 1987, Rev. Freeman married Cynthia R. Bond, and together they began their journey as husband and wife. Under the direction of Pastor Walker, they served as cell group leaders, allowing God to use them to minister to others and nurture their spiritual growth. During this season, they witnessed many wonderful works of God in the lives of the individuals and families they mentored.

In 1989, the Spirit of the Lord spoke to the Freemans, instructing them to relocate to Roanoke, Virginia. In January of that year, they joined Deliverance Church of Christ (which was later renamed to Kingdome Life Ministries, and later to Kingdom Life Ministries International) where they served under the leadership of Pastor Lorraine Alston. Their family grew with the addition of three children: Natasha, Leon II, and Jonathan.

Continuing the Legacy

Today, Rev. Augustus Leon Freeman, Sr. continues to serve in ministry as an Associate Pastor at Kingdom Life Ministries International. His life reflects a journey shaped by godly influences, childhood encounters with the presence of God, a growing hunger for Scripture, and a steadfast commitment to serving the Lord.

From a young boy preaching to his sister's dolls to his present role in pastoral leadership, Rev. Freeman's story is a testament to the enduring work of God in a life surrendered to His purpose. His journey reminds us that the seeds of a calling may be planted early, nurtured through faithful mentors and life-changing experiences, and ultimately cultivated through obedience to God's direction.