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NEW GRACE TEMPLE MINISTRY

# The KINGDOM

## PRESS

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Volume 03

NGT Photographers:  
Dylan Boatwright  
Reaghan Jones

Pastor: Bishop Michael Cook  
First Lady: Evangelist Barbara Cook





## ***“Distribution Feeding”***



### **Order Of Service**

Sunday School..... 9:30 a.m.  
Morning worship ..11:00 a.m  
Noonday Prayer..Wed .  
Bible Study ... Wed 7:00 p.m

***Radio Ministry***  
***Every Sunday at 2:00***  
***p.m. on WYNN***  
***98.5 FM and 540AM***  
***3:30pm on 105.1***

### **Television**

### **Broadcast**

***Every Sunday at***  
***5:30 am on Fox***  
***Channel 7 WFXB***



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number. We will get  
you to the House of  
Worship.**



The Vision of New Grace Temple's Distribution Ministry is to give of themselves and resources for the benefit of others, to enhance the Kingdom of Almighty God!!!

The Distribution Team serves the surrounding communities according to the will of God. To do this, it is with the help of other NGT Ministries, who share the same vision, volunteering their time and donations which makes it a momentous success.

Marashea Davis, President of the Distribution Team, states: “Jesus be GLORIFIED as we grow and aid in the development of our community and surrounding communities!!! With your spiritual blessings as well as your donated resources we say, Thank You! Please pray for our Outreach Ministry as we continue to move forward in our upcoming events!!!!” The Distribution Team hosts events at least twice a month but are looking forward to expanding events in the future.

On June 10, 2023, The Distribution Ministry hosted “Community Feeding Day” at New Grace Temple at 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. For those who were unable or unaware of the event the food was delivered to them by the Distribution Team members. The team enthusiastically delivered food and items to Mt. Zion apartments in Florence, and Nearby mobile home park. The members of the Distribution Ministry consist of: (Leader) Marashea Davis, (Assistant), Tnnia Williams, Castine Jones, Virginia White, Alvin and Lorraine Thomas, Jack and Chirlene Keith, Latoya McKenny, Kwamesha Peterson, Alonda Crittenden, Angela Pittman, Deacon Peguese, and Felica Ward.

On a personal note, when I think about the Distribution Team, this scripture comes to mind: 2 Corinthians 9:7 (KJV) “Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.” The Distribution team are the givers God loves. The meaning is, God does well to those who show God’s love to others who are less fortunate. Therefore, it is amazing that the Distribution chose Proverbs 19:17 (KJV)- “He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord; and that which he hath given will he pay him again.” It is because of their heart, the heart to give, and the heart to love will make them shine as they become a pillar in the community, in helping others. Thank you Distribution Team for letting your light shine, not so the people can see you, but that the people can see the love of Jesus.

NGT Reporter

Tawan Wilson



## *What is Pride?*

### **The Lust of the Flesh, The Lust of the Eyes, and the **Pride** of Life**

Who is God, but the creator of all things? What He made, He made it good the first time and it was without flaw. The relationships and interaction amongst humanity, namely, between men and women is something that He ordained with intention and purpose. Yet, it has become a breeding ground for corruption, perversion, and idolatry.

As the first married couple in history, Adam and Eve served as the blueprint for what marriage should look like. Since the fall of man, however, sin permeated the earth, and disobedience turned into rebellion, rebellion turned into defiance, and so forth. Eventually, lust and perversion manifested and incited the fleshly desires of men. Once the forbidden sexual acts between the sons of God and the daughters of men took place, the spirit of perversion took on a mind of its own and seduced anyone willing to entertain it (Genesis 6:1-4). As fornication became more and more frequent, other acts of perversion became more appealing. Having a partner outside of the marital covenant became the baseline of sexual perversion as pornography, masturbation, Bestiality, and pedophilia began to pique the interests of those who became content in sin.

Today, the spirit of perversion has been labeled the spirit of pride by those who have not only entertained it but have fully embraced it. The LGBTQ community- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer-has led many people to believe that living a perverted lifestyle is something to be proud of; a badge of honor of sorts, hence the word PRIDE. This couldn't be farther from the truth. Because of their unwillingness to retain the commandments of God in their knowledge, their reprobate minds have corrupted and defiled the creation that was once without flaw (Romans 1:28). Many men are now indulging in sexual relations with other men and women are defiling themselves with other women. It doesn't stop there, though. Some men want to become women and women want to become men; mutilating their bodies. Unfortunately, it gets more confusing than this! There are people who no longer identify with one pronoun. These people do not consider themselves to be male or female, so they identify as they/them; adding another layer of complication and confusion. Because of these delusions, the spirit of perversion has even targeted young children by having them think that they were born in the wrong bodies. Little boys are convinced that they are meant to be girls and vice versa.

Everything that God the Father has created, Satan has tried to steal, kill, and destroy. The most precious thing of all is our worship of God. The LGBTQ's community and the celebration of Pride Month are a direct expression and representation of how Satan uses our innate desires to place scales on our eyes. One of the definitions of pride is exaggerated self-esteem. Having pride means thinking of yourself as more special or more important than others. It's self-worship, and God hates it (Proverbs 8:13). The enemy also tries to imitate God by using what the Lord has given us and turning it into something vile. For example, to symbolize LGBTQ's pride, this community has appropriated the sign of the rainbow; the token of the covenant God gave the earth after the flood in the days of Noah (Genesis 6:9- 9:17). They have taken this sacred symbol and attached it to expressions like, "love is love" and "love, not hate" in an attempt to make it more palatable to those who are against Pride and the LGBTQ lifestyle. However, those who are blood-washed, born-again believers will never come into agreement with that which God has called abominable.

"And God said, This is the token of the covenant which I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for perpetual generations: I do set my bow in the clouds and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth." Genesis 9:12-13.

NGT Reporter,  
Kwamesha P.



## *“The Wayward Man”*

Wayward... for how much longer?

The wayward man, as we were taught by Elder Jones during Sunday Morning Bible school, is a dangerous man, not only to him/herself but also to others. He is defined as one who is difficult to control or predict, because of unusual or perverse behavior. He or she is known to be self-willed, headstrong, rebellious and defiant, to name a few. You could assume that he is oppressed or even possessed by the spirit of the devil and you would be right!

In the series on this reluctant, Wayward man, we were given some hard evidence on the sin nature, that is carried out by this ungovernable individual. It is already noted that sin separates us from God, but let's look at it further. It is the appeasement of the fleshly desires of man and also, the luring of one into a deceptive nature by hiding its real intent. That sounds just like a device of Satan. James 1:15 tells us “Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death. To simplify it, The wayward man is being lured to his own death! This should be enough to turn this man's heart back to God, but remember, he's defiant and probably hasn't let the Spirit of the Lord fully into his heart. He is deceived to think what he is doing is his own free will to do; and do whatever he pleases. Sounds like Pride because it is!

Let's talk about lust (sins mother). Lust is a desire for something that is forbidden. And since we know that lust was able to conceive, it must have been intimate with whatever was forbidden at a given time. I'll be more specific.... Hence the name, Sodom and Gomorrah zoomed past their chance with God, Saul had a chance, Solomon had a chance and Cain had a chance. But the fact that they did do evil in the sight of God, simply means that they allowed lust to conceive sin which brought forth their destruction. So what does this all mean for us today? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? God forbid!(Romans 6:2)

Here are key points that broaden the scope of the tactics used by the devil to destroy God's people. They are as follows: “Sin will take you where you never intended to go, keep you longer than you intended to stay and cost you more than you intended to pay.” So, how much longer will you allow lust to conceive sin in your life, instead of living by faith as depicted in Hebrews 11:24-25, where Moses refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter and chose to be mistreated with the people of God instead of indulging in the pleasures of sin. He was obedient and did not act upon lust, which could have compromised his position in God's plan for delivering God's people. He Submitted himself to God, resisted the devil and the devil fled from him (see James 4:7). This could only be prevalent in our lives if we allow the Holy Spirit to take the lead and not fulfill the lust of the flesh. It's a faith walk; and I've decided to live by faith!

NGT Reporter Latoya McKenny



## Baptism



### “Confession of Their Faith”

As Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan River to be baptized by John, many of our men, women, and children did the same. They came out of their houses to the house of prayer, to be baptized by our leaders in the sanctuary. Each one shared their reasons for choosing to be baptized, and what they expected God to do afterward. On Friday, June 2, 2023, by faith, they each stepped into the water, with a heart of repentance and gratefulness. Believing after coming out of the water they have been washed of all their sins and made new in their spirit; righteousness had been fulfilled. And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.” (Acts 2:38)

The water serves as a representation of our sins being washed away. Going down in the water is the dying, and burial of the old sinful nature, and coming out of the water, washed clean of sin and putting on the new man. Ready to put away old bad habits and take on this new life in Jesus, as a new creature. Minister Jones, and Deacon Davis, baptized everyone along with Bishop praying a special prayer. We all stood in prayer, coming into agreement with them for the renewing that would come upon them and how their act of faith would impact the lives of their families. Families and other members of New Grace Temple came to assist, show their support in prayer, and believing God for the greater transformation.



## *“Baptism cont.”*

Sis. Charlotte Dickey, being baptized that night, shared that she is surrendering her all to God. She said, “My heart is filled with His love and His light, I am completely filled.” Brother Jack and his wife Chirlene Keith were both baptized. They exclaimed, “To God be the glory!” in excitement. Since Sis. Chirlene had been elevated to presider, she needed to be baptized again. “It was an honor to do this, and all the glory belongs to God,” she says. Sis. Christie Flores along with her two daughters came to support her husband, Brother Elliott Flores, who had also been baptized. She is confident that God is doing a new thing in her husband, and she is grateful for it. Many of our youth also made June 2<sup>nd</sup> a new day in their life with Christ Jesus. A few shared that their earnest hope and prayers were for God to keep their families safe.

Though the water was not cold, neither were they in the Jordan River; God still met them there. June 2<sup>nd</sup> marked the day of their outward confession of their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and dedicating their lives and heart to God. May the Spirit of God continue to fill them and keep them. May they walk in the power and the anointing of the Holy Ghost. As they decrease, may God increase in their lives. In Jesus Name Amen.

NGT Reporter Ke”Aira Primes





## ***“Spotlights”***



### **Couples Spotlight**

Being in NGT has positively affected our marriage in many ways!

“I as a man have truly learned the order of God, and how to love my wife and take care of my family as God ordained it to be!” “As a woman of God in NGT I have learned how to humble myself to my husband and trust God; I had to let go of the ways I learned from being raised by several generations of single mothers and let God lead me by his principles.”

Deacon Charles and LaShondel Spears

NGT Reporter,  
Latoya McKenny

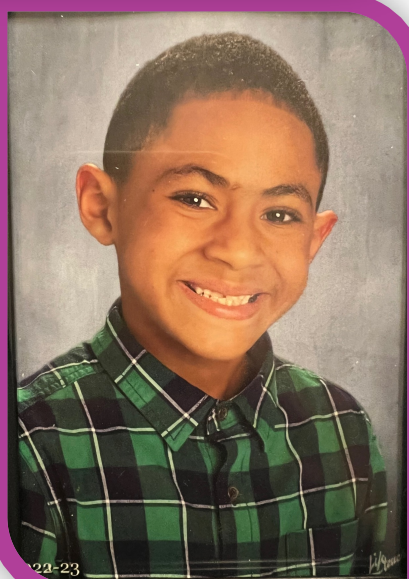


### **Singles Spotlight**

“New Grace Temple has impacted me a lot. When I first started I was lukewarm. I had a huge problem with secular music, but when I came to this ministry I have learned how the music of this world can impact your thoughts. Since then I have changed the music I listen to and the way I live. I have fully surrendered and gave my life to God recently, and I have been following him ever since. I thank God for this ministry, I have learned so much.”

Honesty Slater

NGT Reporter,  
Latoya McKenny



### **Youth Spotlight**

In Prince's words: “Going to New Grace changed my life! I use to Lie a lot but listening to Bishop talking about God all the time and talk about the Word of God, I don't lie anymore.”

NGT Reporter,  
Latoya McKenny



## *Singles' Conference*



### “PERFECTING YOUR GIFT”

To be single and living holy comes with profound purpose. Purpose that is driven by the most powerful and influential supernatural force, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and Savior. Romans 12:1 states, “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.” Within this verse, it summarizes the believer’s response to God’s grace in the gospel of Jesus Christ and calls the believer to become living sacrifices to God; giving up their own desires and serving God’s will. The verse also expresses transitions from the doctrinal to the practical aspects of Paul’s letter and is a significant verse that introduces the rest of the chapters that follow. In this article, one will discover the mission for the Singles Ministry, its purpose, and how the Singles came into existence; also a peek at the Singles Ministry first ever, Singles Conference.

The mission of New Grace Temple’s Singles Ministry is to unify and develop those who are not married in every area ordained of God!!! Like the mission, the purpose of the Singles Ministry at New Grace Temple came into existence because of those who were not married and had a desire for a fellowship with those of their peers.

On March 17-18, 2023, New Grace Temple’s Singles Ministry, launched their first ever Singles Conference! It was a momentous success. Not because of the number of people, but by God’s Holy Word that was shared by anointed men and women of God. The names of the anointed men and women are as follows: Bishop Michael Cook, Evangelist Barbara Cook (both from New Grace Temple), Pastor Eartha Edwards (Harvest Time Ministry) Minister Quintin Jones II (New Grace Temple), Pastor Shonette Richardson (Outbreak Cathedral), and Pastor Robert Woodberry (Bethel Word Ministry). Scheduled for Friday Night, March 17 was Pastor Eartha Edwards from Harvest Time Ministry in Mullins, South Carolina. Pastor Edwards graced us with her beautiful voice of song and encouraged us as single men and women to wait on God, and not to be in such a haste to get married; that we should be content in the state that God has graciously placed us in. However, when we are single men and women, we are to remain devoted and dedicated to God by keeping ourselves pure and holy, not defiling ourselves with things of the world. The purpose of the Singles Conference was to reach and get the lost saved and edify those seeking a greater place in the Lord.

March 18, 2023, classes began promptly at 10 a.m. with biblical teachings from the anointed men and women of God mentioned above. The lecturers presented such dynamic lessons of “Single and Holy,” “Understanding the Power of my Gift,” and “Moving Beyond Barriers.” James 1:17 (KJV) states: “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.” The commands of God, and the dealings of his providence, try men’s hearts, and show the dispositions which prevail in them.

In James 1:17 (KJV), James urges us to flip the predictable human script. God gave you every single good thing in your life. He is the source of all the good you have and all the good you want. Who God is does not change when our circumstances change. He does not go from being a good God to a bad God when our trials begin. He is still the source of all the good in our lives; He never changes. Therefore, it is imperative to live holy whether one is single or married. We were created to glorify God in every aspect of our lives.

NGT Reporter Tawan Wilson



## *Pastoral Appreciation*



### **25 Years of Servitude; Grace upon Grace**

New Grace Temple celebrated the angels of the house as they reached 25 years of pastorship. In a time where true shepherds are very few in number, we bless the Lord our God for His grace in giving us a pastor who is truly after His heart. Through teaching, preaching, and correction, Bishop Cook continually uses the plumbline, the Word of God, to ensure the uprightness of the Saints of God. Biblically, the number 25 means grace upon grace; we know undoubtedly that is what the Lord has placed upon his people. Like King Jehoshaphat, who reigned for 25 years, New Grace Temple has served with a pastor who follows God and trusts Him, even in times of trouble.

Apostle Jeremiah Merritt (Hartsville, SC), Apostle Joyce James (Brooklyn, NY), and Elder Tony Jones (Florence, SC) each allowed the Holy Ghost to step forward and minister three individual sermons that ultimately carried the same message; unity in the house of God. That is, unity in congregating, service, and most importantly, worship. In addition to unity, deliverance was another recurring theme during the celebration; reminding the NGT family that salvation without deliverance really isn't salvation at all. It's an unfortunate situation to be in, to be "saved" and not free. However, once the people of God allow their minds to be delivered, then and only then will the Law of God take full affect. (Romans 7:25).

The Word of God came forth in a mighty way throughout the duration of the celebration, leaving many to examine themselves and even make amends with fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. One of the members stated, "If there is one thing I learned during the pastoral anniversary, It's that I need to be more mindful of what I say and how I represent the House of God when I am out in the world. I would never want to miss the opportunity to win a soul to Christ because of a poor choice of words." While another says,



## *Pastoral Appreciation Continued*



“After hearing the word each night, I had to examine my own heart and be honest with myself about my shortcomings. I found myself in the Word and I realized that I was not measuring up to the standard set by the bible. I had to repent. Plain and simple.” We bless the name of Jesus for the Word of God coming forth with power and leading people to shift their minds back towards heaven.

We are grateful for having leaders who not only preach the word, but apply it also. Their character, along with the example they’ve set as people of God have been the magnet for those seeking spiritual nourishment. As Jeremiah 3:15 states, “And I will give you pastors according to Mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding.” God be praised for their diligence, obedience, and sacrifice. It is our prayer that this 25th year of pastorship brings a grace upon their lives that they have never experienced before!

“And of His fullness have all we received, and grace for grace. For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.” John 1:6-17

NGT Reporter,  
Kwamesha P.



## *The Bishop's Corner*



*Unto God be all the glory;*

*We have now come through half of the year of 2023, and this is the point where each of us examine and take inventory of self. Am I in a better place spiritually with the Lord? Is his Mission being accomplished in and through me? This is also the point where "meism" has its spotlight; do I have it right with my brothers and sisters in Christ? What if everyone in NGT was like ME, would the kingdom be progressing, peaceful, joyful, or full of HELL?*

*God Bless You All!  
Bishop*



# *New Grace Temple Ministry*



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