## | IVERSAL | EWS



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**NOT TO BE SOLD** 

#### **OPINIONS**

#### IN THIS EDITION

#### THE END OF PAIN

Good Friday and Easter Sunday can signify different meanings for all of us. While for some, it is seen as just another bank holiday or a time to spend with family, relaxing, shopping, and scavenger hunting for children. For those of the Christian faith, these two days are the most fundamental days of the year as they call to remembrance two momentous days in history: The Death and Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, marking a turning point for all humanity.

When Jesus died on the cross, there were three words He spoke just before taking His last breath. They were simple yet so powerful that they shocked the earth's foundations, and the dead rose. He said, "It is Finished." (John 19:30), Declaring not only the completion of his mission but also the end of the pain and suffering of man, whose sins and pains He took upon Himself at the cross. He offers a new beginning, a new life to all who turned to Him.

Have you been suffering and carrying the pain of trauma, loss, divorce, sickness, financial failure, etc.? No matter what may be the cause of the pain you are experiencing, Jesus wants to offer you a solution and heal you of this pain.

Join us at a Universal Church near you on Good Friday, April 7, and Easter Sunday, April 9, to experience the power of God in your life and end your pain once and for all.

#### BEATING DEPRESSION

Depression is an illness of the soul that you can only cure through the power of Faith. Who, other than the Savior of Souls, can heal the soul? What medicine can we use to cure that which is spiritual?

Every Friday, at every Universal Church, we have a service for spiritual cleansing against depression. Make a Chain of Prayer by attending a prayer meeting for seven consecutive weeks. You will receive practical advice and spiritual help through prayers to over-

There are thousands of testimonials worldwide that prove a Chain of Prayer works. You CAN have a new beginning. You, too, can defeat depression.



Call 1.888.332.4141 Text 1.888.312.4141 For more information **SEE PAGE 12 FOR LOCATIONS** 



#### **Bishop Edir Macedo**



#### THE DIFFERENCE



owadays, it's impossible to only testify of the Lord Jesus' resurrection through words. The world wants more than long speeches, more than emotional rituals. The world wants proof of His resurrection. And to prove that He is alive, we need a quality life and character unlike any other.

It's not only about having testimonies of mir-

"If our character does not testify of the Lord Jesus, what's the point of speaking about Him? "

acles we received but behaving in a way that is beyond reproach—first home and then everywhere else. Unfortunately, "Christians" behave

well among friends and strangers, but they act out of their old nature around their family. They are selfish, mean, stingy, cunning, and so on. Others are "holy" when they talk about the Word of God, but it's dog-eat-dog when it comes to doing business with brothers in faith.

God is Just. His throne is based upon justice. "Woe to him who causes one of My little ones to stumble!" says the Lord.

We know that perfection is almost impossible. But we should behave according to our beliefs as much as possible. After all, if our character does not testify of the Lord Jesus, what's the point of speaking about Him?

In 2015 Adjanni Mayisa decided he'd had enough. Feeling suffocated by an internal pain he couldn't put into words, he was determined to make it stop at all costs and end all the pain.



' It all started in elementary school, where my teachers discovered I had I felt like I was not achieving anya learning disability. I had to have a thing with my life. Everything was teacher's assistant with me for each a mess, leading me to think of comclass session, which made me de- mitting suicide. pressed over the years. I began questioning if I was normal and worthy On my first attempt to take my life, no longer desires to take my life. to be in my class. I felt that others I received a call from a Pastor of were better than me.

when I went to junior high, but the bullying and depression continued. Every time I went to school, it was like a burden, like someone had placed a heavy stone on my back. Anything I would try to achieve I saw it as God giving me another forward to life. would not work out for me.

It was challenging in college, but from the Pastor. He invited me to

#### <u>I THOUGHT ABOUT THROWING MY-</u> SELF IN FRONT OF THE TRAIN."

forget my problems

and the void I had. But the problems remained. I carried the pain

help to stop me.

chance. I later received another call

I tried to fit in with the crowd. I the church. I decided to come. At would play soccer to escape and first, I was very closed in and quiet. But when I opened up, I was able to receive help.

of depression and low self-esteem. Adjanni made a chain of prayer, and gradually as he kept coming and applying what he was learning, his life began to change, and God healed him from the pain of his past. Today he is no longer depressed and

the Universal Church but ignored I am bold and confident. I can speak it. On my second attempt, it was a with people openly and am now I thought things would improve nightmare. My younger sister wit- able to help others. The church has nessed me about to stab myself. She greatly helped me, especially regardwas very young then, and all she ingusing my faith and taking action could do was run to my parents for to overcome problems. I strive to achieve more and more each day. Every single day I wake up, I look

-Adjanni Mayisa

## WATER FOR GREAT MIRACLES

Learn to put your faith in action in order to fight your problems!

Get your Divine Water every

Sunday at your nearest

Universal Church



PER DAY
SUFFERING WITH
FIBROMYALGIA, PANIC
ATTACKS, PTSD...

I suffered from fibromyalgia and carpal tunnel syndrome. I also had many other problems like anxiety attacks, depression, panic attacks and PTSD (post traumatic syndrome disorder) among other things. I was taking sixteen pills per day. I used to go see doctors almost five times each month. I had therapists coming to my house to visit me, it was a lot of work. I learned to use my faith here, attending Sunday services. So, I used the Blessed water to drink, to cook and in many other ways. Now, I am off every medication, I'm no longer feeling the pains in my hands, my knees, feet or back.

CREATER FOR GREATER STATES OF SOLOMON

I am free. -Lorise from MA



TODAY SHE'S 100% FREE FROM ENCEPHALITIS

Izabel Bezerriel, at the age of 49, contracted the Zika virus and developed acute viral encephalitis. Her husband, Anthony, explains that she didn't recognize anyone and had to be rushed to the emergency room.

The diagnosis was not positive, but Izabel believed she could be cured by faith. Today she is 100% recovered.

## CURED FROM CIRRHOSIS OF THE LIVER AND ADDICTION TO ALCOHOL AND DRUGS



I was plagued with a lot of depression. I struggled with crack, alcohol, and cocaine addiction for 34 years. The addictions caused me to have cirrhosis of the liver and bone deterioration.

I was depressed. I lost my family, and my children became addicted too. I was in and out of prison, mental institutions, treatment centers, and homelessness. My son started attending this ministry and invited me to go, too. Attending the services faithfully, the pastor gave me the Blessed water, which I used with faith, so my life started to change. I got delivered from alcoholism and drug addictions, and when I went to the doctor, the cirrhosis was gone! -Kimberly, LA

\*The Universal Church warns that medical treatments should never be ignored.\*



#### Message

#### **BISHOP JOSHUA**

#### **ACCESSIBLE TO THE AFFLICTED**

Have you ever caught yourself trying to call a company, but an answering machine keeps

transferring your call from here to there? You spent hours and hours waiting in line, looking for someone to solve your problem, right? If so, you know how frustrating it can be to wait hours and hours, and in the end, instead of the solution, they offer yet another menu of options.

We often go through situations in our lives where the solution we are looking for seems inaccessible.

Reflect with me. What solution do you need for your life? What area of your life needs a quick answer? Are you tired of waiting and looking for a solution?

There are moments in our lives when we can no longer wait and require an urgent solution.

In this situation, Jesus has His ears open to hear you and is willing to help you solve any

Yes, that's right! Jesus is ready to help you. And the only thing you have to do is call upon

Him!

While Jesus was on earth living as we do, He was always there for those suffering. Today is no different. To approach Him, all you need to do is sincerely pray. Surely He will hear you and bring you the answer you need so much.

Jesus is accessible to you!

May the God of the Bible bless you.



problem.

It doesn't matter how big your problem is.

The Bible says:

"Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28

		TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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	6 ✓ Ecclesiastes 6			The second second		
L	Ecclesiastes	S	Henry Ser	1070	in second D.	2.50
	20 V Hebrews 7					Hebrews 12

THE END OF TRAUMAS AND DEPRESSION

this incident, I became angry and sad. I felt betrayed by this family member.

My parents used to fight a lot, my father would drink a lot, and with what my mother was practicing, there was never peace at home. I left the house at age twelve, lived with another family member, and started working. There, the person began to abuse me again sexually; it was like a curse. Then my mother found me and brought me back home. I was already angry inside with full of hatred. I didn't trust any-

one anymore since those I trusted had betrayed me, and I didn't want to suffer betrayal anymore. I left the house again and started deep in drugs and drinking, trying to find peace. I was involved in this life from thirteen to seventeen years old.

I was mostly out

of the house, I made friends outside, and we would sleep in the streets, sometimes at the cemetery on top of tombs, and during the day, we would look for an abandoned house to stay. Deep in drugs, I didn't see any way out; I thought there was no hope for me, so I started contemplating suicide. One day, I decided to kill myself and put the rope around my neck, but suddenly, someone came inside the room and asked me what I was doing with my life. I told him I could not take life anymore, the life that was full of sadness, anger, hurt, and bitterness. I had tried everything to fill that emptiness, to generate money; I would sell my body since I thought that was the only way to raise my child.

One night, I turned on the TV on the channel of the Universal Church,

and I heard people testifying about what God has done in their lives. They spoke a lot about the Holy Spirit and how they received peace in their lives, and that caught my attention, knowing that it was what I had been looking for all my life. I went outside and looked to heaven, saying, 'If You are real, God, then do something for me.' The next day, someone came to my house to invite me to the Universal Church. I decided to go and did a chain of prayer for my total deliverance. I surrendered completely to God and asked for baptism in the Holy Spirit. God delivered me from all the depression, anger, addictions, traumas, and hatred I carried inside me. I looked for the people that did me wrong and asked for their forgiveness, and now, I am a happy person, completely free and baptized in the Holy Spirit.

Delsione Barbosa



had a problem with addictions. Everything started as a child, my mother used to encourage me to smoke, but I refused to do it as a child. When I reached the age of seven, a member of my family started to abuse me sexually. It continued until the age of 10. After

#### WHAT'S HAPPENING AT UNIVERSAL

## SUNDAY GATHERING OF FAITH AND MIRACLES IN HARLEM, NY

#### AMC MAGIC JOHNSON THEATRES

lem held its Sunday Gathering AMC -Magic Johnson Theatres in Breaking of the curses in their lives: Harlem, New York.

fore, in their land, they shall possess a menopause. double portion; they shall have everlasting joy." Isaiah 61:7

family. Attendees without families in felt a "shock of electricity through her has now been alive 23 yrs after the the service joined hands with their leg." She was able to move her leg and last sibling's passing. She also could neighbors, symbolizing their family eventually walk again. member/s to break the curses in their families.



placed on the stone altar.

es. This week would be the week of a clean bill of h "Blessings, "wherein we pray for high cholesterol. Blessings in all areas of our lives. The culmination of the week of Blessing would be next Sunday, March 19, 2023, where the Bishop instructed

The Universal Church in Har-today for the Breaking of the curses.

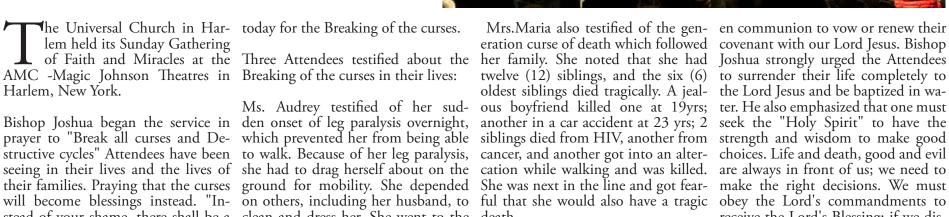
stead of your shame, there shall be a clean and dress her. She went to the death. double portion: instead of dishonor, doctor for a diagnosis, and the docthey shall rejoice in their lot; there- tor stated her leg paralysis was due to Mrs. Maria also realized this was not

her situation and sincerely prayed to the church, she learned how to break Pastor Troy also prayed for the deliverance of the Attendees from generated to the Universal Church. She mind, Mrs. Maria decided to make a ational curses working in the lives of noted that although she had to be sacrifice of her whole life to God with some for many generations. Attend- dressed by others to attend church, a monetary sacrifice. She also vowed ees with their families were invited to she could move her leg by the end to God that she would not leave his the altar to pray and fight together to of service. After one prayer and takbreak the generational curses in the ing three (3) of the blessed water, she As a result, she broke this curse and



Ms. Shirley testified to the genera-All participants in the "Great Cam- tional curse in her life of high cholespaign of Breaking Curses" brought terol, and she noted that her mother their sacrifices along with paper with also suffered from this sickness. She the names of three generations to be suffered from high cholesterol, was placed on medication, and was ada-Bishop Joshua emphasized that al- mant that she would not take medithough this was the last day of the cine. But Ms. Shirley decided to take campaign, it did not mean we should it while using the blessed water. She stop praying for the Breaking of curs-returned to her doctor and received a clean bill of health, with no more





normal and instead a curse upon her family when she began attending the Ms. Audrey became revolted about Universal Church. Upon attending presence until the end of her days. see God's blessings in other areas of her life. She got married, purchased a home, and has her own business, and most importantly, she received the "Holy Spirit."

purpose for the following Sunday,



"Ceremony of the Blessings," wherein all the Attendees were encouraged to wear white, reflecting their lives. "Let your garments always be white, and let your head lack no oil." Ecclesiastes 9:8. Come to pray for your blessings and make a vow with God to obey so that you will have the oil (The Holy Spirit) upon your head.

The Lord's Supper was given towards the end of the service, and all who wanted to participate were giv-

receive the Lord's Blessing; if we disobey the Lord's commandments, we will receive only curses.

"Behold I set before you today a blessing and curse: the blessing if you obey the commandments of the Lord your God which I command you today; and the curse, if you do not obey the commandments of the Lord your God..." Deuteronomy 11:26-28

After the Lord's Supper, Bishop Joshua shared some great news regarding the progress of the Universal Behind Bars (UBB) work. We were approved to go into the New York Prison system to spread the Word of God. In addition, UBB was approved in Trinidad and Tobago after 11-12 years of applying for permission. UBB will have access to all nine prisons in Trin-Bishop Joshua also spoke of the new idad and Tobago. We also learned that the Universal Church in Harlem was granted permission to purchase a Cathedral in Harlem, New York, with unlimited space for all.

> Ms. Diana, who was visiting the Universal Church for the first time, noted she came because she had generational curses in her family. She was leaving the service feeling tremendous and hopeful, knowing God has a purpose for her in life. She has been looking for a home church and believes she has found it in the Universal Church because, while in attendance, she felt so connected to God.



**Address: AMC Magic Johnson Theater** 2309 Fredrick Douglas Blvd., Harlem, NY, 10027

For More information on how you can join us for our next gathering, you can find us on Facebook by scanning the QR code to the right



cover story middle spre

# END OF PAIN

ome people are so used to suffering that they cannot envision a different life. They carry burdens of the past. It seems like they are in a big arena where, to survive, they have to fight a beast every day and defeat it.

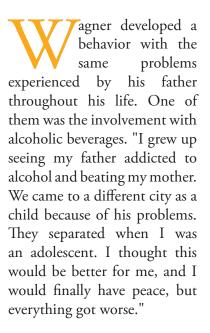
They don't have a minute of peace. They live tormented and apprehensive because they know that even if they win today, they will have to face another even worse animal tomorrow.

That's what evil does in people's lives. They surround them on all sides and with different problems: it destroys the family and the marriage; it causes illnesses, addictions, misery, insomnia, fear, panic syndrome, and depression, tormenting them day and night with visions of shadows and hearing voices, to the point that they feel they have no choice but to do what he asks.

Many spend years of their lives blindly obeying the spirits, believing they can relieve the pain they feel in their soul.

For them, feelings of peace, joy, happiness, and fulfillment are nothing but a utopia, for the simple fact that they have never experienced them and that it is up to them only to accept the destiny that was imposed on them: suffering.

If this has been your life, know you were not born "predestined" to suffer. Look for the closest Universal Church to find the help you need. See the back pages for locations.



Wagner continued to witness his father's persecution of his mother for several years, as he wanted to rekindle the relationship. He remembers feeling great sadness because of this situation and took refuge in addictions. "I lived in inner conflict and pain."

So,at17,attherecommendation of 'friends,' I started using drugs like marijuana, cocaine,

He couldn't stand living in that situation and opted for separation. The loneliness and pain he carried inside made thoughts of suicide take over his mind. But, afraid of what might happen

After much suffering and on a day when he felt a lot of anguish, Wagner remembered the work

at the Universal Church that he had known as a

later, he never tried to kill

and alcohol. I didn't enjoy it, but I wanted to fill that void."

Unable to achieve his goal of calming down by consuming drugs and alcohol, Wagner sought happiness

in a romantic relationship. Then he realized that even in this area, he was reproducing the same attitudes his father embraced in his marriage. "Despite my attempts, I could never have a happy romantic relationship. I ended up staying with someone with whom I had a daughter for a while, but the relationship was extremely troubled. There were betrayals and physical attacks," he says.

teenager. "At 24 years old, I was in terrible shape. So I decided to call a friend and tell him I wanted to return to church. He accompanied me to a meeting and I have remained steadfast since that day. I decided to give myself to God."

The inner void was filled, and his character was transformed.

"Today, I am healed inside. I got married, and I'm happy and free from all addictions.
 I found true happiness, and God gave me the greatest gift anyone could receive: the Holy Spirit. I can say that I am complete", he concludes.



**COVER STORY** 

a family that attended evangelical denomination where her father was very active. "He preached the Word of God and helped people. Everyone saw in us an appearance of a happy and

perfect family. Still, inside the house, he manipulated the doctrine to oppress his wife and children and was extremely aggressive."

The abusive relationship separated Edilaine's mother from him, she moved children the with from one city to another. Because of the very difficult financial restart, the

family went to live in favor. Edilaine's mother attended the denomination and met a younger man she married. Still, she was again subjected to an abusive relationship for some time because he invitations, had been an alcoholic.

In this scenario, Edilaine reached adulthood, trapped by the suffering of the past. She used her studies to escape and hope for a better life until she graduated and became self-sufficient. Instruction became an illusory lifeline, a crutch; spiritually, she was lost and anesthetized by her because seeing my father and stepfather attending the denomination and acting at home the way they did, that is, destroying our lives, I decided that I no longer wanted to know about God or religions and that I would do everything my way."

dilaine was born into Behold, Edilaine met a guy who seemed to be in tune with her interests, but she was wrong. Over eight and a half years, they dated, got engaged, built a house, and, shortly before the wedding, he broke off his relationship with her. Edilaine



remembers what she felt on that occasion: "I saw my castle crumble. It was sand." Thus, she returned to God at the worst moment of her life. Following her brother's began she attending the Universal Church. "That's where I discovered a different, rational faith, without those 'believing doctrines' from before," she notes.

Edilaine had acquired a stomach ailment from the stress of ending her engagement. It healed as soon as she started going professional side. "For me, to Universal. "It was an faith did not solve anything encounter with the power of God. At first, I stayed in the church out of gratitude for the healing, but, attending meetings, I realized that I had been stuck with those marks since childhood".

> She reports how she understood that she needed to use intelligent faith: "I

realized that I had always had reservations about the male figure and that my problem did not start with the end of the engagement, but only surfaced at that moment, because I had always carried pain inside me. I understood that I needed to forgive,

> that my fulfillment could not be based on my career, in which I put all my strength, nor on any romantic

relationship, even with correct intentions, that I was not healed internally".

With understanding, she could forgive people from the past and learn that her primary

relationship should be with God. So, she stopped being just a creature to become a Daughter of God. "I discovered Him as a Father, who welcomed and healed me. I understood proposal of the New Birth, to surrender all that past to God and be reborn from Him as a baby with no past and a trajectory to be built from scratch. I was baptized in water and received the Holy Spirit. It was important for Him to live within me."

Today, I can show many other women, who were also disappointed with failed relationships, suffered abuse, or had no father references, where true love and happiness are," she concludes.



ood Friday and Easter Sunday are two \_of the most important days of the year I for Christians. These days commemorate what we believe to be two of the most meaningful days in the history of the world. Since Jesus died on the cross for all our sins and was resurrected on the third day, Christians proclaim this to be the decisive turning point for all creation.

Jesus was the only one who paid the price in full on the cross for us all. It marked the beginning of a new life and salvation for all who believe. You have the right to actually LIVE instead of scraping by and barely surviving! The misery has to run away; the cycles of unhappiness must end; the failures must become successes, but is this really what is seen?

It's not enough to nod in agreement to this statement or go to church on these days to fulfill a religious obligation. It is not what this is about—this week is about the greatest victory ever. Jesus changed the world in one week and left the blueprint of how we can do the same in our lives. If you want a new life and end all pain and suffering, join us and be transformed.

Write down below all the pain and hurt you've be carrying your whole life and bring this with you				
Carrying	, your whole life and bir	ing tims with you.		

## WHO IS SPEAKING LOUDER?

humanity? Did you guess it right? Yep. Our feelings. If we aren't careful, we get caught up with what we feel, see, hear, and touch. It can lead us to make decisions that aren't so good. WHY? Because our eyes only give us the information that they currently see. Our ears hear both harmful and good but tend to pay more attention to what is hostile.

We feel things that often trigger us to act out of character, even when we are happy. If we do not take control of our emotions, it can cause us to react in a way that can be overbearing to someone else.

Do you know the story of Lazarus? Well, he was a man in the Bible whom Jesus had compassion on. However, he became ill one day and inevitably passed away. His sisters, Martha and Mary, went to his tomb and were desperate because of what they saw.

They heard he had been dead for four days, and you could only imagine what they felt then. However, if they allowed faith to occur, they would allow God to work and let them know everything would be okay.

#### **JESUS** THE SAID, RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE. HE WHO BELIEVES IN ME, THOUGH HE MAY DIE, HE SHALL LIVE." JOHN 11:25

Jesus did not see a dead Lazarus or pay attention to what He heard (that he had been dead for four days). He just said, "REMOVE THE STONE."

This stone can be doubts, fear,

hat is a big enemy to negativity that has to be removed. What has been the "stone" in your life? Are you having doubts because you received a life sentence? Or every time you go for parole, you are denied? You've been TEXAS incarcerated for many years and losing C.t. Terrell unit: 1pm & 4pm hope, or you can never seem to change?

> Well, back to allowing our feelings to control us, this cannot be something we let speak louder because our feelings misguide us. Still, reason leads us to stop, think, and process a situation. Jesus had faith and knew Lazarus would be okay.

> Therefore, He spoke with boldness. What does your faith tell you? Are you giving in to the negativity because it's easier than trying to do better? Is negativity all you've heard, and you're used to it?

Step out of your comfort zone and let your faith speak for you. Stop feeding yourself with what you feel and start telling yourself the new Darrington/Memorial Unit: 3PM beginning you want to see taking place.

"I WILL BE FREE, I AM NO LONGER A CONVICT, I AM MORE THAN MY NUMBER, I CAN DO BETTER!" Your faith will move this mountain from your life and let you stand tall on the "stone" instead of falling over it.



#### **UNIVERSAL BEYOND BARS (UBB)** NATIONWIDE SCHEDULE

Monday's uther Unit: 10AM Clemens unit: 2:30pm Clements 2 Unit: 1PM Terrell Unit: 2PM

erguson unit: 8am & 5pm Hobby Unit: 8AM \_ane Murray Unit:12:30PM Goree Unit: 2PM Jester Unit: 1PM Jester 3 unit: 12:30pm Cegan unit-1pm

uther Unit: 11:00AM Clements Unit: 3PM Goree Unit- Every 1st and 4th Wed of the month @ 4PM. Holliday unit: 8am

Thursday's: Crain Unit: 5PM Hilltop Unit:1PM Sander's unit: 5pm & 6pm

Luther Unit:10AM

Saturday's: Jester Unit, every 1st Saturday of th

Note: Ferguson Unit, please

Broward Regional Juvenile Detention Center: 4PM-5PM Tuesday: 10am-12pm.

Miami Dade County Pre-Trial Detention Center:10AM-11AM

Avenal State Prison: 2PM- 4PM

Wednesday's: Halawa Correctional Facility- 7pm

\* IF YOU DO NOT SEE YOUR UNIT ON THE UBB SCHEDULE YET, DO NOT WORRY. THERE IS STILL AN OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH THE UBB (UNIVERSAL BEYOND BARS) BY SENDING YOUR LETTER TO BISHOP JOSHUA AT:

7075 Southwest Fwy. Houston TX, 77074

YOU CAN BE SURE THAT BISHOP JOSHUA WILL READ AND RESPOND TO YOUR LETTER. HE MAY ALSO ATTACH A BIBLE STUDY TO IT SO THAT YOU CAN KEEP YOUR MIND FOCUSED ON SOMETHING POSITIVE, AND STOP THINKING ON THE NEGATIVE THINGS.

YOU NEED ANYMORE INFORMATION ABOUT DIFFERENT COURSES OFFERED BY THE UBB, PLEASE GET IN CONTACT WITH THE CHAPLAIN IN YOUR FACILITY.

#### CONTACT US UPON RELEASE: 1 (888) 691-2291



UBB IS SPONSORED BY THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH. WHEN YOU GET OUT, COME AND LOOK FOR THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH THAT SPONSORS THE UBB! CALL US TO FIND THE NEAREST LOCATION TO YOU: 1 (888) 332-4141 OR VISIT US AT: WWW.ULFN.ORG/LOCATIONS! WE ARE HERE FOR YOU.

NO MATTER WHAT YOU'VE DONE, OR WHAT YOU'VE BEEN THROUGH, YOU MATTER.

... REMEMBER YOU CAN SEND YOUR LETTER TO BP. JOSHUA, HE WILL PERSONALLY READ AND REPLY. SEND YOUR LETTER TO: 7075 SOUTHWEST FREEWAY. HOUSTON, TX 77074.

BE SURE TO INCLUDE: FULL NAME (FIRST/LAST), INMATE ID # COMPLETE FACILITY NAME, CORRECT ADDRESS, CITY/STATE, AND ZIP CODE.

#### **UNIVERSAL BEYOND BARS**



#### **UNIVERSAL BEYOND BARS**

### You are not alon



#### ABUSE AND ADDICTION CONTROLLED MY LIFE...

y name is Indira. Growing up, I saw nothing but sadness, my dad was an alcoholic, and due to this, ■ I would witness him beating my mom a lot. It got to the point that my mother had to move away, which impacted me greatly.

BEFORE I SMOKED THE CRACK, I WOULD PRAY, "PLEASE HELP ME TO STOP." I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW WHO GOD WAS.

44



When I was 17, I was sexually assaulted by a cousin I trusted, leading to depression. Eventually, I had to start taking antidepressants, sleeping pills, anxiety pills, etc., But the judged me or looked at me funny, but they were medicine didn't help me, it sparked an addiction within me.

When I found the Universal Church, it was by invitation, and I was very welcomed. No one there to help. I was coming, sometimes while still drinking and being high, but I did not stop coming. I was faithful, and with time, I wrote every addiction I had cold turkey.

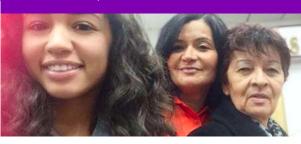


Eventually, I heard about the Holy Spirit and wanted to receive Him. One day, the pastor said, "The Holy Spirit cannot enter a dirty body because the Holy Spirit is clean." I persevered until I finally encountered God; everything in my life made sense and had meaning. Today, my life is transformed. I am full of joy and peace, and my family is restored. Now, I can do for others what was done for me.

I became a violent person, out of control, and got involved with the law many times, the police were tired of seeing me. Constantly I was getting arrested, and it is like the cycle was never broken, I knew I wanted to change but I did not know how to do it.

Over time I began to take Percocet's, crack cocaine, and drink a lot. I would walk over 20 minutes and wait at the liquor store until the owner would come to open the door to get a drink.







"MY SITUATION WAS SO BAD THAT I TOOK MYSELF TO THE COURTHOUSE AND ASKED THEM TO LOCK ME UP, BECAUSE I THOUGHT I WOULD DIE, DUE TO ALL THE CRACK AND ALCOHOL I WAS TAKING.

"NOBODY CARES ABOUT ME...." "I'M ALL ALONE..." "WHO WILL EVER REMEMBER ME...?" "IT'S OK..."

HAVE THESE THOUGHTS BEEN RUNNING THROUGH YOUR MIND? YOU'RE AT POINT WHERE IT DOESN'T MATTER ANYMORE, AND NOW YOU'RE SIMPLY DEALING WITH IT. DO NOT DEAL WITH IT ALONE! WRITE YOUR LETTER TO BP. JOSHUA, BECAUSE HE WILL PERSONALLY READ AND REPLY TO YOU.

BE SURE TO INCLUDE: FIRST/LAST NAME. YOUR ID NUMBER. THE FACILITY NAME. ADDRESS. ALONG WITH THE CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE. SEND YOUR LETTER TO BP JOSHUA AT: 7075 SOUTHWEST, FREEWAY. HOUSTON, TX 77074

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FIGHTING THE UNSEEN ENEMY 7pm with Bishop David

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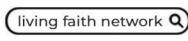


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#### **REAP PROSPERITY TODAY**



Business woman Sabrina Carla Santos 42 years old, had a troubling childhood. Sabrina's parents were problematic. Her father drank, and sometimes there were fights at home. She and her sister witnessed everything. On one occasion, her mother left home. "My mother separated from my father when I was five years old, and I started to live with him. I had a complicated childhood. I lived more on the street and depended on neighbors, who would give me lunch or invite me to eat at their house.

#### "I would say that I was born cursed"

I didn't imagine what it was like to be happy and have peace," she says.

Out of necessity, she started working early. At the age of 9, she already took care of children to guarantee some money. Adolescence was challenging too. Her sister left home at 15. Upon completing her studies, Sabrina did the same: she left home. Soon she got married and got pregnant. She believed that she would finally be happy, but the attempt did not work.

She entered her second relationship, and things got worse. Unemployed, the couple felt firsthand the misery and pain of being in need. "I got to the point of going to the bakery, pregnant with

my second child, and saying that I wanted to eat bread because I knew I would get the bread to support the family. Sometimes, I resorted to the help the government provided. I was totally dependent on others. People even donated clothes to us. I never had anything to give them. She recalls, "I didn't have a pack of cookies to give my children and barely had enough money to pay bills."

The harsh reality of childhood persisted into adulthood. "I was not happily married. There were fights and physical abuse, and I was humiliated. My life was a big failure. I didn't believe in myself or that my life could change," she says. The second relationship did not last either.

She came to The Universal Church, and during that time, the pastor was preaching about a special purpose that would be held in the church to change her life. "I had never surrendered myself to God, but this time, I went for all-or-all."

That's when she had the idea of Spirit. He is my setting up a grocery store. Even wealth, my without having a physical space and heritage, my with little to offer customers, the greatest good," she business started from scratch and concludes.

indoors. All she had was the value of the bicycle sold by her eldest son, who gave the money so the business could start. They started with two pies. It was the beginning of something great. From Faith Faith, business grew and became a bakery. The bakery, in turn, soon became a market. "God sent people who believed in me."

"We bought the market without a contract, without anything. God changed my life. The Altar owes nothing to anyone."

Today, she can say she has a blessed life marked by a chievements: cars, the possibility of living in a luxury gated community, and, recently, she was able to acquire land.

However, she insists on highlighting the greatest good," she concludes



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