

UNIVERSAL NEWS



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TRAUMAS OF THE

DO YOU FIND IT HARD TO MOVE ON?

PAST



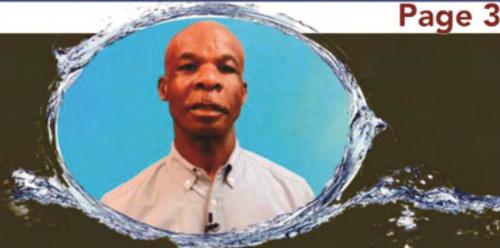
She lost her parents. Despite being adopted, the consequences of childhood trauma tormented her, she reports. (Read more on middle pages)



MESSAGE

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NOT TO BE SOLD

| IN THIS EDITION |

TRAUMAS OF THE PAST

Traumas are the results of deeply distressing and disturbing experiences. Many who have experienced trauma are often scarred emotionally and develop low self-esteem and a lack of self-worth, while others become angry and bitter. They may also experience flashbacks of unwanted memories, which cause them to relive the disturbing event repeatedly.

But why is it so hard to move on? Common trauma causes are sexual/physical abuse, domestic violence, loss of a loved one(s), a rough childhood, and even witnessing acts of violence. After experiencing such things, many find themselves unable to cope with the overwhelming emotions. Feeling helpless and depressed, some dive deep into drugs and alcohol to forget and escape the pain they feel. They may even try to move on and build their lives, but they are never fully satisfied or at peace.

Past traumas are like invisible wounds that directly interfere with a person's personal and professional life. No matter what a person does, the pain always returns unless they deal directly with the hurt. Some have even convinced themselves that "time will heal." However, after many years, they still have difficulty forgiving, forgetting, and moving on.

A wound can only heal when treated directly at the source; otherwise, the person will constantly relive the pain. Maybe you have tried everything from therapists to medication, substances, etc., and still have not been able to heal from the traumas of your past; why not give faith and the Power of God a chance? Visit a Universal Church near us today. I am sure you will find the peace you have been searching for.

Do not remember the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing...I will even make a road in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. (Isaiah 43:18-19)

| BEATING DEPRESSION |

Depression is a sickness of the soul that cannot be cured by medication. Although medication may provide temporary relief, once its effect wears off, the feelings of depression return, leaving a person in a constant state of sadness and hopelessness.

Are you feeling hopeless because of your current state? Have you tried everything in your power to change your life, but things remain the same? Are you so overwhelmed that you have lost the desire to live? It is a sign of evil at work in a person's life. Don't lose hope yet, dear friend! Depression does not have to be the end of you. Taking your life now will only take away the opportunity to see it change.

God wants to free you from this depression, but you must turn to Him. Every Friday, at every Universal Church, we have a service to undo all evil. Come to receive a powerful prayer at one of our locations. I guarantee you will instantly feel a difference. You will learn how to fight against the evil that has been working in your life and defeat depression once and for all.

YOU CAN BEAT DEPRESSION
YOUR STORY ISNT OVER!

Call 1.888.332.4141

Text 1.888.312.4141

For more information

SEE PAGE 12 FOR LOCATIONS



| MESSAGE |

Bishop Edir Macedo



GOD CALLED US TO CHANGE YOUR LIFE!

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me because the LORD has anointed me to...

- Announce the good news of deliverance. Isaiah 61.1
- Remove the pain from your heart. Isaiah 61.1
- Deliver you from sickness, addiction, or problems you have dragged on for years. Isaiah 61.1
- Proclaim Salvation in your life. Isaiah 61.2
- Bring faith and joy to those who mourn. Isaiah 61.2
- Remove past ashes, trauma, and frustrations endured in life, and give to those who believe the crown of the King's children. Isaiah 61.3
- Remove the sorrow and anoint you with the same anointing the Lord Jesus had, the oil of joy. Isaiah 61.3 and Psalm 45.7

The crying, tears, and oppression will come to an end. The shame you suffer today will become DOUBLE HONOR because our God will make this happen. (Isaiah 61.7) Take a look at what these men did with the strength and power of the Spirit of God:

- Gideon linked his faith with the Spirit of God and overcame an army of 135,000 men with just 300 men. Judges 6.14
- The Spirit of the Lord came mightily upon Samson, and he killed 1,000 enemies. Judges 15.14-15
- Anointed by the Spirit of God, David overcame a fully armed giant using only a stone and sling. 1



Samuel 17.46-47

- Filled with the Spirit of God, Peter and John healed the paralyzed; they began to walk, and many miracles happened. Acts 3.6-9

Not to mention many other heroes of faith who, anointed by the SPIRIT OF GOD, did extraordinary miracles. Pastors, assistants, bishops, and servants of God, will be in the same faith on Sunday.

If you are sad, exhausted, sick, or trapped by a problem, carrying the trauma and frustrations from your past, come and put a STOP to this suffering! With the anointing of the Almighty God, we will minister a miracle in your life this Sunday in all branches of the Universal Church.

"The crying, tears and oppression will come to an end"



Johann understood that only God could give her the peace she longed for, and she asked God to provide her with the wisdom to forgive the person who abused her.

At the age of 13, mentally and physically abused by my stepfather. He drugged me, punched me, and raped me. He threatened to kill me if I told anyone. I then became pregnant; the doctors told my mom that the baby was fully formed, and she took me to another clinic for an abortion.

My stepfather got sentenced to 15 yrs in prison but only stayed for

FORGIVING MY ABUSER

six months. My mother had hired lawyers and sold the house to bail him out. I froze when I saw him at the door of the house, and I attempted suicide several times.

My mother was unfit to take care of me. Therefore, they placed me in a group home. I wouldn't say I liked it. I felt as if I got punished for what happened to me. Once every week, my mother visited me, and at 17, she brought a guy to date me. We started dating, and at 18, she married me off to him.

Two years into the marriage, I found out that my sister had an affair with my husband after having my first child. I confided in my mother. It was then that I found out that the guy I was dating was the son of the man that raped me, making my son's grandfather the man who abused me. He was also abusive to me, and I decided to leave.

I lived in constant fear and didn't want to go out. I used to suffer

from continuous flashbacks. I was always angry with my husband. I could not be with the son of the man who abused me. I tricked him into giving me a divorce. Afterward, all the flashbacks, the pain, and the fact that my children were not happy caused me to plan to kill myself. I would drink and take pills to commit suicide several times.

After coming to the Universal Church and doing a chain of prayer, I saw changes. I started to go out again and began to look forward to getting out of the house. I later found out my stepfather was dying. I froze when I visited him in the hospital, but I asked God to speak through me. I told him I had gone there to forgive him for his actions and the pain he had caused my family. I also asked him to forgive himself.

Today my heart feels free. I overcame the trauma. I now have a great relationship with my family.

- Johann



"For with God nothing will be impossible."

Luke 1:37



THE DOCTORS WERE TALKING ABOUT AMPUTATING MY FEET

Walking on high pavements, I had neuropathy, so I didn't feel it. The next day I went to shower and felt like something was wrong with my feet. I saw something like plastic on the bottom of my toes, so I pulled it, but it was my skin.



I had ulcers and blisters from walking on high pavement. I was back and forth to the doctors for two years.



They couldn't do anything; they were talking about amputating my feet. One night, on my bed. I watched the Showdown of Faith on TV while flipping the channels.

I came to the church, and with faith, I followed the teachings given by the pastor. I used the Divine Water. It works because in two months or so, my feet started getting better, and then they completely healed. Francis, CA

I STRUGGLED WITH ADDICTIONS FOR 20 YEARS...

I was addicted to marijuana, alcohol, and cigarettes for almost 20 years. I also had a lump on my right side; it was excruciating. I couldn't stand up for too long. Since I came to this ministry, my life has improved. I drank the Divine Water, and by my faith, the pain disappeared. The lump disappeared; it was a miracle, and now I have no complaints about pain. I am proof that God works. Beltran, MA



Free from back pain & depression

I suffered from depression, insomnia, and anxiety for over ten years. I had pains in my back due to a car accident where I was injured. I tried to commit suicide by taking pills and cutting myself, but it never worked. I learned about this ministry through its program on TV. A lot of things changed after I received the prayers. The weeks have gone by, and I have no more pain in my neck or back. I haven't had to take any pills for anxiety or depression. I do not sit in a room all day anymore. Today I am a happy individual!

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

Get your Divine Water every Sunday at your nearest Universal Church

See page 12 for a location near you!

Weekly Program

<i>Monday</i>	FINANCIAL LIFE <small>(Solutions to debts, losses, failures, unemployment)</small>
	Tuesday
	PHYSICAL & SPIRITUAL HEALING <small>(Receive prayers for your physical and spiritual healing)</small>
<i>Wednesday</i>	SPIRITUAL GROWTH <small>(Bible study & seeking the Holy Spirit)</small>
	Thursday
	FAMILY & LOVE LIFE <small>(Relationship advice and family guidance)</small>
<i>Friday</i>	SPIRITUAL DELIVERANCE <small>(Breaking curses, witchcraft, evil spirits, spiritual attacks)</small>
	Saturday
	IMPOSSIBLE CASES <small>(Persistent and old problems)</small>
<i>Sunday</i>	TOTAL LIFE TRANSFORMATION <small>(Spiritual empowerment, seeking the Holy Spirit)</small>

Start your Chain of Prayer today - It works
For more information, call 888 332 4141



MESSAGE

Bishop Joshua

WITH GOD, THERE IS NO CATCH

“You are granted three wishes”

That’s the genie’s words in your favorite childhood movie. If only it were that easy. Unfortunately, in real life, nothing comes by simply wishing. Despite what we see in famous cartoons and movies, there are no magic wishes that can in-

stantly solve life’s problems.

In fact, if you remember, whenever those wishes would happen in cartoons or movies, there was always a catch.

Fortunately, prayer is not a wish. The Bible teaches us to ask for what we need. While it may not happen instantly, there are no catches. When God fulfills His Word in our lives, He changes them completely. The only catch is when you ask; you must believe you will receive what you’ve requested.

“The only catch is when you ask; you must believe you will receive what you’ve requested.”

“And whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive.”
Matthew 21:22

When you pray and believe, nothing is impossible for you.

Your faith in God’s power can unlock great things.

God will do His part in providing for all your needs. Your part is believing that He can!
May the God of the Bible bless you.

Anxiety was always my companion



I suffered from spiritual attacks, insomnia, anxiety, depression, and sadness. Ever since I was a teenager, I used to take care of my parents because they were both sick. I then lost my parents and people close to me, like my aunts and uncles, which made me depressed and anxious. Sometimes, I could not leave the house because of fear that something would happen.

I was also under spiritual attacks; at home, I would hear people calling my name and see shadows and chairs flipping over even when no one was there, and I could not sleep. My mother passed away, and we became homeless. Though I had the money, we could not get a house to rent. It was like that everywhere I went; I always got a no as an answer.

Even though I considered myself a Chris-

tian at that time, there were things that I was doing that were wrong. I thought it was okay to continue doing it and only ask for forgiveness after. When I started doing the chain of prayer at the Universal Church, I learned that I had to change my life completely and let go of what was wrong. I decided to make this change and start a new life with God.

I began to spend more time with God in prayers and fasting, and today, my life has completely changed. I no longer suffer from anxiety, depression, spiritual at-

tacks, or insomnia. I am no longer sad; now, I have a place to stay and a car. I now have a new life, peace, and good health, and we have peace at home.

Ayasha Jones



BISHOP JOSHUA

[>>https://birafonseca.com](https://birafonseca.com)

Join our mailing list to receive the latest updates from Bishop Joshua

10 OCTOBER 2022

Bible Reading

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THR	FRI	SAT
						✓ 1 1 Corinthians 1
✓ 2 1 Corinthians 2	✓ 3 1 Corinthians 3	✓ 4 1 Corinthians 4	✓ 5 1 Corinthians 5	✓ 6 1 Corinthians 6	✓ 7 1 Corinthians 7	✓ 8 1 Corinthians 8
✓ 9 1 Corinthians 9	✓ 10 1 Corinthians 10	✓ 11 1 Corinthians 11	✓ 12 1 Corinthians 12	✓ 13 1 Corinthians 13	✓ 14 1 Corinthians 14	✓ 15 1 Corinthians 15
✓ 16 1 Corinthians 16	✓ 17 2 Corinthians 1	✓ 18 2 Corinthians 2	✓ 19 2 Corinthians 3	✓ 20 2 Corinthians 4	✓ 21 2 Corinthians 5	✓ 22 2 Corinthians 6
✓ 23 2 Corinthians 7	✓ 24 2 Corinthians 8	✓ 25 2 Corinthians 9	✓ 26 2 Corinthians 10	✓ 27 2 Corinthians 11	✓ 28 2 Corinthians 12	✓ 29 2 Corinthians 13
✓ 30 Haggai 1	✓ 31 Haggai 2					

BORN FOR THE ALTAR

The last weekend of September was truly a special one for the over 200 youths who attended the Born for the Altar event in Brooklyn, NY. Youths came in from all across the states for this great event.



The teenage years are filled with moments of significant decisions. What school to attend, who will be lifelong friends, and the type of career to invest? There are many questions, but above all, who will they choose to be? On September 31st, youths from the

United States, and its territories, such as Hawaii and Guam, traveled to New York for a 3-Day conference to answer this question. In the conference hosted by Bishop Joshua, they learned that their role from now on was to be as Isaac was. Isaac is still known for being the son

of the sacrifice. Despite Abraham's love for his son, he was willing to surrender him entirely to God and entrust Him with his future. It is what every young person learned over these three days. Through the moments of dancing, singing, and friendly competition, these young people left with new friends, memories, and a new outlook for the future. On Friday, youths participated in a prayer vigil that reignited their faith. On Saturday, a Mega Help event to bring awareness to suicide prevention among young people. Over 200 youths walked across the Brooklyn Bridge, spreading hope to everyone who crossed their path. On Sunday, the weekend closed with a service of faith and miracles. Each youth returned to their respective states, ready to surrender their all, just as Isaac did.

“

It was really nice to see young people seeking God and in a positive environment, doing positive things.

- Espy | Houston, TX

“

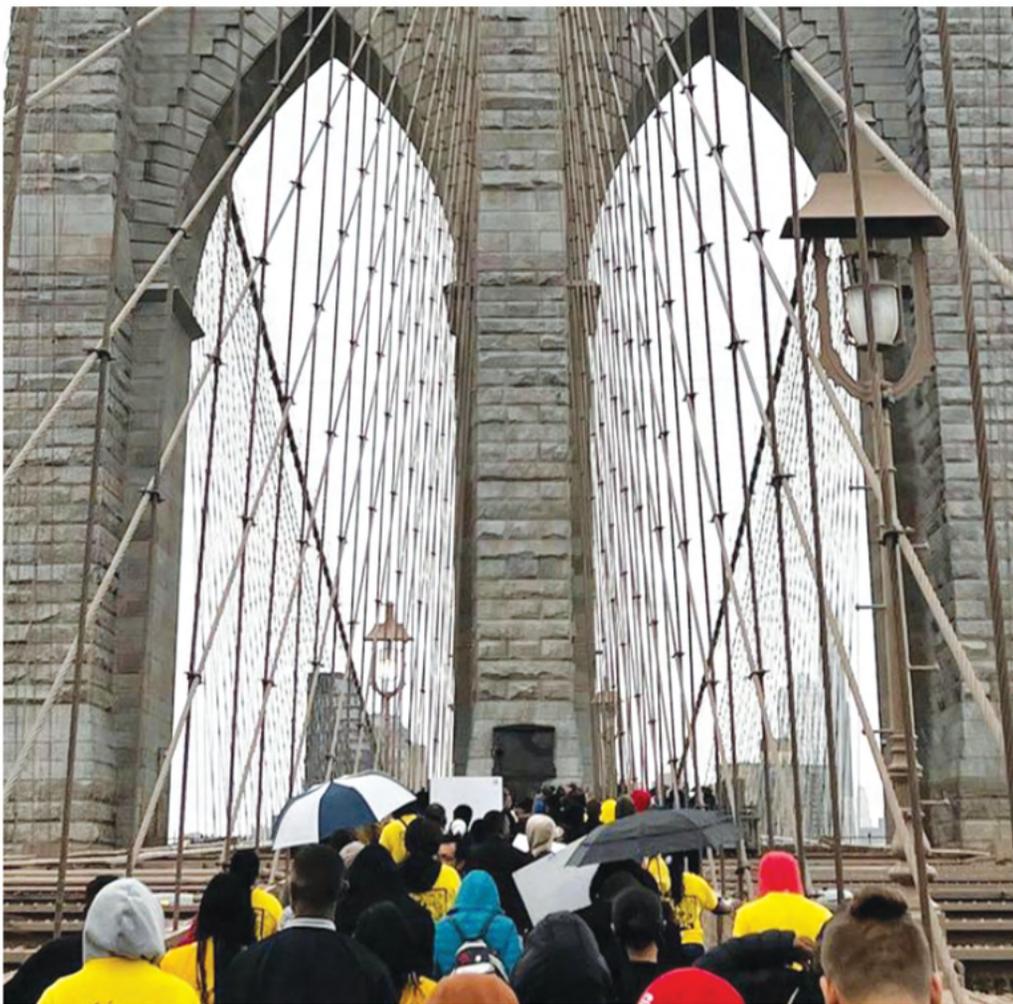
Another blessed weekend with youths that want the best for their future...

- Abigail | NY

“

This weekend was a blast... I believe that God is preparing us all for something very special. Looking forward to the next BFA!

- Kiyari | TX



Are you looking for a place to find help, community and a positive lifestyle? The Youth Power Group is for you.

Check out your local YPG at a Universal location near you.

See page 12 for locations.





DO TRAUMAS OF THE PAST STILL HAUNT YOU?

Do you have unresolved trauma that you would like to move on from but don't know how? The heartbreak of someone being unfaithful to you, an unresolved family problem, an abusive relationship, or you're just tired of what feels like constant disappointments?

If you're tired of holding onto your past and want to let go, read on and find out what Giulia and Thais did to overcome their past traumas.

Visit the closest Universal Church to you now. See the back page for locations.

“My mother died in a train accident, and my father, an alcoholic, died of cirrhosis.” The loss of her parents marked Giulia’s childhood. She became an orphan when she was three years old.

However, my father was alive when I was taken to the orphanage: he and my stepmother signed a contract that they could not stay with

separated, and I became rebellious because I was very sorry for that situation. After a while, I got involved with alcohol and became an alcoholic. My dad even found an empty bottle in my room,” she recalls.

She started going to clubs and looking for distractions to fill her emptiness and pain. “I started hanging out with people who snorted cocaine

treatment, I was diagnosed with borderline personality disorder. I remember that, as I couldn't give up the addiction, I had outbreaks of taking medicine with alcohol. Then came the suicide attempts. That's when an assistant called me to go to the Universal Church,” she says.

Although she accepted the invitation, Giulia did not remain in the Faith. “I thought there was no way for me, and that day, I left the church determined to try to kill myself again. When I went to jump off the balcony, the same assistant appeared,” she says. Then Giulia, who lived with her mother, went to live with her father. “My mom was scared because, at any moment, I could try to kill myself and succeed. I remember that I stayed at a rehab center and had injections. I left and continued doing the treatments, but everything got worse. I remember I tried to kill myself again, and this time I had to have my stomach pumped. That day, they asked to go to Universal again, and I didn't go, but I kept the invitation in my mind and had thought about giving me that chance.”

At the time, Giulia was 25 years old. “My deliverance took over a year because I

didn't understand that my problem was spiritual. I was very emotional; I thought I was fine, but I wasn't. I ended up walking away from the Presence of God, and addiction, depression, and the will to die came back even worse,” she says. She returned to the Universal Church, but kept her old life. “In my mind, the well-being I felt within the church was synonymous with being right with God, although I felt an emptiness when I got home. I had a hole inside of me, and I didn't understand why,” she says. Recognizing that I needed to change, everything changed. “After hearing a Word, I went to the Altar, where my

deliverance and encounter with God took place. God gave me His peace, but I knew I still lacked the Holy Spirit. I began to obey God's Word, and in one vigil, I received Him and had the strength, happiness, and love I never had before. **I believe that the biggest 'giants' I overcame were the soul's emptiness and pain, as they were the root of depression and addictions to alcohol and pornography.** By overcoming this emptiness, I overcame everything, emptied myself of everything, and was filled with God by receiving Him inside me”, she concludes.



me due to lack of conditions”, describes Giulia, who, at the time, had to deal with the feeling of rejection. **Despite being adopted, the consequences of childhood trauma tormented her, as she reports: “I had anxiety attacks, phobias, and I felt very ill.** I grew up in a spiritual home. I saw and spoke with the spirits. As a child, I had access to pornography and masturbation, influencing many girls to do the same. As a teenager, my parents

and became interested in marijuana, which I inhaled. I had the addiction of always being with someone,” she says. She reports that her psychological situation only worsened: “I went into a deep depression and was locked in a dark room without taking a shower. I had no life. I would only open the door for my mother to come in and give me food, but then I would lock myself again and only get out of bed to go to the bathroom. In psychiatric

“By overcoming this emptiness, I overcame everything, emptied myself of everything and was filled with God by receiving Him inside me”, she concludes.



“I WAS ANGRY WITH EVERYONE...”

Thais got introduced to the Faith in childhood when her mother started to attend meetings at the Universal Church. However, even with her maternal example at home, she decided to follow her heart when she was still a teenager. **“I got molested when I was seven years old, which influenced how I saw the world. I was angry with everything and everyone,” she recalls.**

These feelings erupted inside her around 17, when she got introduced to cigarettes at school. “I started going out with some friends, and I saw those who smoke always smiling, and I wanted that for myself. I started with regular cigarettes and drinking, but when I entered college, I started to accept everything they offered me. I became a drug user,” she says. Among the substances consumed daily were marijuana and cocaine.

“Due to my childhood trauma involving men, I was a horrible person with the opposite sex. Thus, while family fights took place, love affairs also multiplied. It was difficult for her to maintain a healthy relationship with her parents living in this condition.

So I did everything I could to hurt them. As I was angry with men, I became involved with women. I said I liked it at that time, but that only made me suffer.”

Thais still faced anxiety attacks, moments when her body expressed what was going on inside her. She had a near-death feeling. “In this

whole process, which was a true ‘giant’ in my life, my mother did not give up on me and continued fighting for my transformation.

I saw the churches being closed due to the pandemic, and I panicked because I knew the Truth. There I saw that I needed to decide,” she says.

Turning away from the world, friendships, drugs, and relationships were not imposed by someone but came from her, who understood that it was necessary to renounce her will to receive a new life from God. **“Although it wasn’t easy, my definition made the process quick. I was set free, then I was baptized in water and went in to seek the Holy Spirit,” she comments.**

Every sacrifice she made in the world was deposited on the Altar, and thus, there was the New Birth. Receiving the Holy Spirit changed Thais’ views and, consequently, how she sees the world around her.

“Today, I am a transformed person **I no longer have an anxiety crisis or depend on drugs, friendships or relationships to be happy.** All of this happened because of a change from the inside out.”

“Today, I see that if it were not for the Holy Spirit, I would not be here because there is no one who believes in us more than God Himself. Therefore, He is everything to me, the reason that makes me get up every morning and have the strength to face my challenges daily,” she concludes.

“Today I am a transformed person. I no longer have an anxiety crisis or depend on drugs, friendships or relationships to be happy. All of this happened because there was a change from the inside out.”

MAKE A CHAIN OF PRAYER

IT WORKS!

A Chain of Prayer is when you attend a prayer meeting for a certain number of weeks without interruption in order to see a breakthrough in your life. Whether it is healing, a financial breakthrough or spiritual deliverance that you need, a Chain of Prayer helps you develop the faith and determination to overcome.

**Monday - Strong Nation
7am, 10am, 4pm & 7pm**



Learn the secrets to overcome financially. Receive direction to grow and become a successful person.



**Tuesday - Prayer for healing
7am, 10am, 4pm & 7pm**

Receive prayers for your physical, mental and spiritual well-being.

**Wednesday - Night of Salvation
7am, 10am, 4pm & 7pm**



A meeting will be held for those who want to invest in a genuine relationship with God.



**Thursday - Family & Love Therapy
7am, 10am, 4pm & 7pm**

The goal of the family meeting is to bring families together. No family is perfect, but they can be free from any hate, separation and other underlying issues.

**Friday - Deliverance
7am, 10am, 4pm & 7pm**



There is a root to every problem. No issue can be dealt with permanently without removing its root. Every Friday, strong prayers is provided for anyone who is facing a problem that is influenced by negativity.



**Saturday - Impossible Cases
8am & 12pm**

Have you ever looked at a problem or situation and thought, ‘this is impossible, there is no solution to this?’ If you want to see the ‘impossible become possible’, join us every Saturday.

**Sunday - Gathering of Faith & Miracles
7am, 10am, 3pm & 6pm**



These meetings aim to help people connect with God, to empower people and teach them how to use their faith to achieve what they want in their lives.

STEPS TO OVERCOMING PAST TRAUMA:

- **REMINDE YOURSELF YOU MATTER:** you can't be defined by your past, especially if you have been making an effort to change. Remind yourself of this, "it is not my fault" you are better than your past, and you are not the cause of what happened to you. Don't hold yourself down because of what someone else did to you; it is not your fault.
- **SEEK FOR SUPPORT:** don't go through it alone. The hardest part about trauma is going through it yourself, which is the leading cause of your past haunting you. It tends to hide when you don't bring it to light, making the trauma harder to get over. "Share" the burden with someone else so you do not face the situation alone.
- **INVEST IN YOURSELF:** in moments you feel the trauma starting to resurface, try and find a "happy" place; I know resources may be limited for good self-care, but find things that make you happy or give you peace; say a prayer and ask God to comfort you.
- **GIVE IT GOD:** the only true way to freedom from trauma is to seek help from God. He said: **"COME TO ME, ALL YOU WHO LABOR AND ARE HEAVY LADEN, AND I WILL GIVE YOU REST. TAKE MY YOKE UPON YOU AND LEARN FROM ME, FOR I AM GENTLE AND LOWLY IN HEART, AND YOU WILL FIND REST FOR YOUR SOULS. FOR MY YOKE IS EASY AND MY BURDEN IS LIGHT."** Matthew 11:28-30. The burden? It is your trauma that you are holding onto; it is time to let it go; Jesus is calling you to give Him your burden so that HE may give you rest.

Remember, you are not alone; you can also find help in the UBB; we are here for you! Sometimes, more support is needed, which is what we are here for. Give us a call to speak with one of our faith counselors, and they will assist you in prayer, counseling, and a word of faith and encouragement to uplift you.

Call us at: 1 (888) 691-2291, receive help today.

COPING WITH PAST TRAUMAS: BEHIND BARS

A FRIENDLY WORD FROM Bp. JOSHUA FONSECA:

Would you accept to go to the supermarket and purchase expired milk, cheese, bread, meat? I am sure your answer will be no!

Why not?

Because we all know expired food is dangerous and not good for our well-being. When you find an expired item in the supermarket, you don't take it home with you but you leave it behind and take something that is good within the healthy date guidelines. Keep this concept with you while you read the Bible verse below:

"... Forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead." **Philippians 3:13**



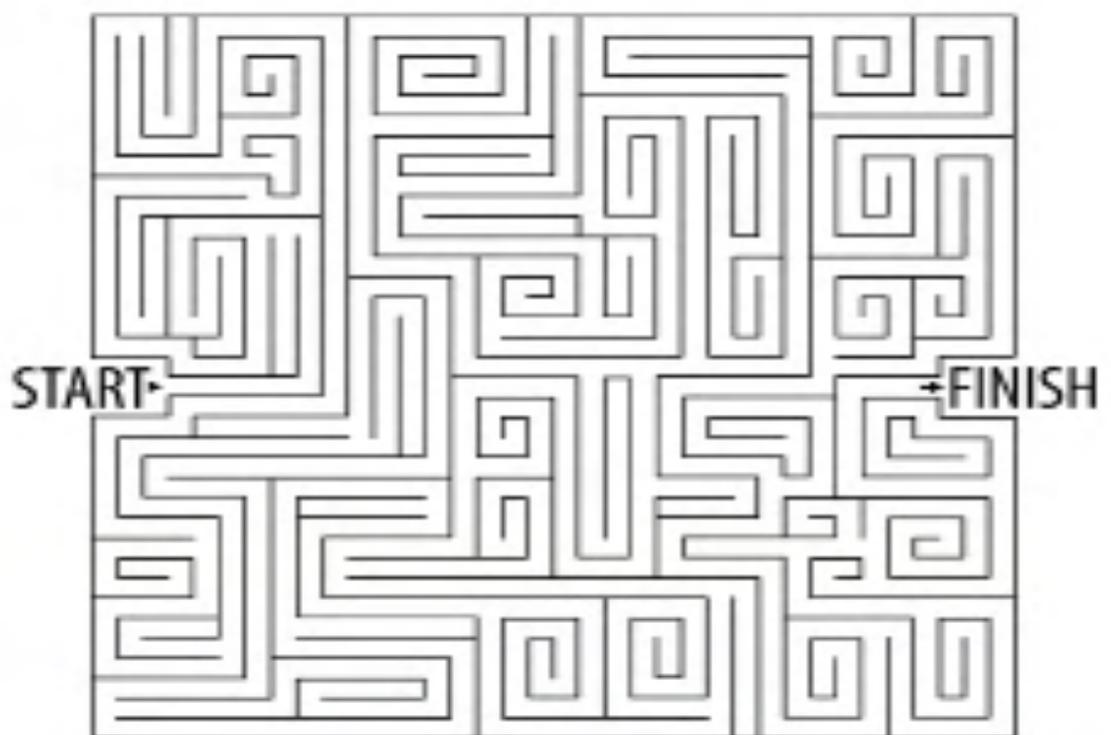
Why is it so easy to leave expired food behind but so hard to leave the past behind? Instead you accept to carry the traumas of the past with you year after year, place after place, into relationship after relationship?

While you are bound to the past, you will never ever move ahead. Why not? Because your past holds you and pulls you backwards. It is not even good to keep talking about your past. You should forget about it, because you can't go back in time and change anything in your past.

Think with me: Why did God make our eyes in front of us and not behind us? So that we can look forward not backwards!

So for that reason, this is my advise for you;

Forget the past, move forward, because what God has for you is ahead of you and not behind you.



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I'm TIRED of being IDENTIFIED by my PAST... Is there ANYONE who will see ME for ME?

YES. Write to Bp. Joshua: your questions, doubts, fears, concerns, he will personally read and respond to your letter! Be sure to include: **FULL NAME/INMATE ID #, COMPLETE PRISON NAME, ADDRESS, CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE**

Send it to:

7075 SOUTHWEST FREEWAY. HOUSTON, TX 77074





UNIVERSAL BEYOND BARS

YOU ARE NOT ALONE

SEARCHING FOR FULFILLMENT IN THE WRONG THINGS, LED ME BEHIND BARS...

My name is Fabiano, and for as long as I can remember, all I wanted was happiness. Trying to find this happiness at a young age, I got involved with the world. It was when I got introduced to drugs of all kinds; I would smoke marijuana, sniff enhanced perfumes, use acid, drink alcohol, etc.

"I STARTED BUYING AND SELLING STEROIDS, AND AT A CERTAIN MOMENT, I GOT ARRESTED AND WENT TO JAIL. IT WAS NOT LONG INCARCERATION, BUT I WOKE UP FAST AND REALIZED I NEEDED TO CHANGE MY WAYS BEFORE THINGS WORSENE. SO I DECIDED TO STOP SELLING STEROIDS AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE."



When I got out of jail, I wanted to do something

different with my life; I heard about real estate, and it interested me, so I got into that field. I was doing well in real estate, networking, meeting other Realtors, and expanding the business. Interestingly, although I was well off financially, I still had an emptiness that I could not understand where it came from or why. I was constantly searching to be happy, so I continued trying to find this happiness but in material things.



There was a point when my business took a huge loss, and when this happened, it caused me to have depression. I got to a situation of not taking showers anymore, and I didn't care for myself hygienically; I would not leave my room. Sometimes I took 15 days before I went outside. I went to psychiatrists and psychologists and was prescribed antidepressants to try and help with my depression.

I went back to work to try and take my mind off what I was going through, but I still do things on my own, and honestly, my life didn't move forward. I didn't see any results, and I couldn't understand why.

One day, while I was in the office, I spoke with one of my workers. I explained I did not want to

continue like this anymore, and this is when I got invited to the Universal Church. I had no expectations, but I went anyways. In the service, I remember a peace coming over me, but I realized that the Universal Church is a school of faith. I took everything the man of God said and applied it to my life so I could change. I was a person that was arrogant and proud, but I understood that God comes first and I come second.



Fabiano today at the Temple of Solomon.

I decided to get baptized in water and heard the importance of the Holy Spirit. I began searching to receive the Holy Spirit. I received Him after seeking Him for about three months. One thing that was so amazing is that instantly I remembered the emptiness I had tried so hard to fill over the years. At that very moment, I was fulfilled when I received the Holy Spirit. Now my business is doing great because God is guiding it. I was blessed with a beautiful wife that also is in the presence of God. She is a woman of God indeed. We serve God in the church and help others who are lost and suffering. The greatest riches I have in my life today is the Holy Spirit.



Fabiano and his wife apart of our Street ministry to save souls.

I AM BROKEN INSIDE...

- I feel misunderstood, I'm only "known" by my inmate #.
- I'm not looked at as a person anymore, just some criminal...
- It would be nice to be apart of society again.

Write to Bp. Joshua: 7075 Southwest Freeway, Houston, TX 77074
Include: Full Name/Inmate ID #, Facility Name, Address, City/State, Zip code

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THE LAST HIT

MON - FRI
10am & 11pm

Join Pastor Damien and learn how to overcome addiction today!

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SHOWDOWN OF FAITH
8am & 11pm
 with Bishop Joshua

AT THE EDGE OF DEATH
9am with Pastor Valdo

THE LAST HIT
10am & 11pm
 with Pastor Damien

PROBLEMS & SOLUTIONS
11am with Pastor Israel

MIRACLES EXIST
1pm with Bishop Edson

REBUILDING FAMILIES
12pm with Pastor Samuel

LET THERE BE LIGHT
2pm with Pastor Dennis

WOMEN IN REAL TIME 3pm

STOP SUFFERING
4pm with Pastor Diego

THE MIRACLES OF JESUS 5pm

FIGHTING THE UNSEEN ENEMY
7pm with Bishop David

- WEEKEND SPECIALS -

YOLO Sat at 3pm

THE RIGHT ANGLE
Sat at 4pm with Evelyn

THE LOVE SCHOOL
Sat at 7pm with Bishop Renato & Cris



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FROM POVERTY TO A LIFE OF ABUNDANCE



Fernando's financial condition took a toll on his family. His plans for a bright future were not realized and so his wife and children suffered. Until, he found the Universal church and things turned around.

See his story.

Fernando dreamed of getting married and having a family and an abundant life, but things didn't go as planned. He even managed to marry his wife but with difficulty. "I got married, and everything got worse. My wife and I lived in poverty. We lived depending on others; we couldn't afford anything. Everything in my house was

second-hand. We borrowed even the pans we used to cook. Fernando was always a hardworking man, but his situation did not change.

When their first child was born, the family faced the pain of not being able to buy food for him. "My brother-in-law donated the milk that my son drank."

He points out that his mother-in-law sent milk for the whole month from another city, and he had to wait for someone to bring it. The last straw for the couple came when they found a mouse in the milk. Life did not improve, and their daughter was born after four years. In this situation, Fernando accepted the invitation to come to the Universal Church. Fernando explains that as soon as he participated in the first meeting at Universal, the certainty that he

would achieve change was born within him. "On the first day, I began to understand why my life was not moving forward: I did everything with the strength of my arm; I did not plan with God or based on His Word." Fernando says that, because of his acts of faith, he got into a fight with his wife, who at the time did not understand her husband's choices. "She told me I had been brainwashed, but I was sure our lives would change completely." It is what started to happen. The couple began to work with clothing. The couple has five stores and other businesses. Today the couple manages an agricultural business and enjoys their houses, farms, cars, and restored life. Fernando, however, emphasizes that his greatest asset is the Holy Spirit. "Today, we have plans, and we move forward because God is ahead of us."



She told me I had been brainwashed, but I was sure our lives would change completely.

that his greatest asset is the Holy Spirit. "Today we have plans and we move forward because God is ahead of us."

FINANCIAL TIP

In addition to knowledge, the skills essential to excel in today's job market must also change. In this world where technology is taking over the job market, there is no longer a way for professionals to perform activities manually. In this new reality, each employer and employee needs to be active in search of improvements, development, and training.



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