

The Year to Rise Up and Reach Out!



Isaiah 60:1-3

- This weekend we are celebrating 33 years of ministry. God has been so good and faithful to His Word.
- This ministry has been faithful in serving and reaching our community locally, nationally, and internationally through the support of missions each month.
- We reached thousands of people through GSFI Radio and Television broadcast. And through our Wednesday services and Weekend services whether in-person or Live Stream and Social Media.
- We continued to see people from all ages getting saved each week through our services, funerals, and outreach ministries.
- We had our set of challenges, but yet in spite of them God proved Himself strong and mighty!

A. Let me reiterate this because it's so important as we continue to move forward with the vision that God has given us.

1. There's one Vision for the house of Love and Faith and that is to: "Equip the people of God for the work of ministry."
2. We are One church in Two locations where I am blessed to be the Senior Pastor of both locations. Bishop Michael Thomas is the Overseer of Love and Faith.
3. We must stand strong together and never divided as we continue to grow and move forward. (Matthew 12:25)
4. We must remember that we are Love and Faith and not Love and Hate.
5. We will always have people to come and go. We must love them when they come. We must love them when they leave. We must love them when they return. (Psalm 127:1)
6. We must remember that this is God's House and you belong to God.

B. What is the Biblical definition of the word "arise?"

1. The word "arise" means to rise, to stand up, to be stirred up, to awake, to be in a state of readiness or to prepare for action (call to service).

2. It is synonymous to the word to proceed, to come forth, to follow, to spring forward, to soar, to emerge, to grow, to come to light, and to develop.
3. The word “arise” can also mean or indicate new seasons, increase, overflow, enlargement or expansion of territory. (Joshua 1:1-9)
 - I truly believe that this year, that God is going to expand our reach, and enlarge our territory, and bring increase or overflow of souls being saved.
 - I truly believe that this year, that we’re going to witness such an outpouring of the Holy Spirit as we reach our city with the gospel of Jesus Christ. (Joel 2:28-32, Acts 2:17-21)

C. There are (3) Three D’s that I want you to remember this year as we “Rise Up and Reach Out.”

1. Stay devoted to God.
2. Stay disciplined. (to prayer, fasting, studying of the Word of God)
3. Stay away from anything that will distract you from the mission of Jesus Christ.
 - The Month of January is always the Stewardship month.
 - The Purpose: To help us to embrace stewardship from God’s perspective so that our lives will glorify Him.
 - The Goal: to make us aware of the significance of stewardship.
 - The Spiritual Principles: Stewardship, Sowing and Reaping, Obedience, Authority, Organization, Faith, Agreement
 - The Objectives: (1) Embrace God’s Call to Stewardship (2) Embracing the Stewardship of Giving (3) Embracing the Significance of Giving

D. The Believer Must Embrace God’s call to Stewardship. (Genesis 1:26-28)

1. What does Stewardship mean?
 - It means the right to care for the property of another. (Genesis 1:26-28)
 - Another word for “dominion” is stewardship, manager, or administrator over.

- In other words, God gave man “stewardship”, but not Ownership. “God is the owner, I’m just the manager.”
2. The Believer must recognize that God is the True Source and Owner of everything. (Psalms 50:10, 24:1-2, 100:1-5, 1 Chronicles 29:11-12, Haggai 2:8)
 - Without an understanding of stewardship, “Everything that God has entrusted to us will be mismanaged.”
 - Dr. Myles Munroe stated: “When you don’t know the purpose of a thing, you will abuse a thing.”
 - There are (3) Three Results that will happen when Believers Embrace God’s call to stewardship: (Matthew 25:14-30)
 1. God will get the glory.
 2. God will entrust more to the faithful steward.
 3. God will reward the faithful steward for their obedience.
 - There are (2) Two Reasons why God gave us Stewardship. (Genesis 1:26-31, 2:1-9, 15-17)
 1. To honor Him.
 2. To teach us responsibility.
- E. Seven Things happen when a Believer Embraces Stewardship from God’s Perspective:
1. They will sow faithfully. (Give regularly and consistently)
 2. They will sow responsibly. (Give by the 10-10-80 plan)
 3. They will sow obediently. (1 Samuel 15:22)
 4. They will sow purposefully. (2 Corinthians 9:7)
 5. They will sow expectantly. (Give with the expectation to receive)
 6. They will sow wisely. (Give according to the Word of God)
 7. They will sow with a good attitude and pure motives. (2 Corinthians 9:7)
- F. Embrace God’s way of Provision both in the natural and spiritual.
1. Embrace that God owns the seed. (Deuteronomy 8:18, Psalm 24:1-3, Psalm 35:27)
 - You may earn a living, but God gives us the ability to earn.

- You may possess it, but God owns it.
- 2. Embrace that You are a steward of the seed.
 - God has placed a lot of trust in our lives.
 - Trust is the single most important factor in any relationship, without it you don't have a relationship.
- 3. Embrace what it means to Sow: To give the proper things of God according to the plan and will of God.
- 4. Embrace what it means to Reap: To receive the harvest of God that is provided for us through Jesus Christ.
 - To sow you must have a seed.
 - To reap you must have a harvest.

G. Embracing God's Call to Stewardship is never without expectation and results. (Malachi 3:8-10)

1. What does God expect His stewards to do? (vs. 10)
 - Expect them to bring all the tithe.
2. Where does God expect His stewards to bring it to?
 - Expect them to bring into My storehouse (local church) (vs.10).
3. Why do God want His stewards to bring it to the storehouse?
 - Expect them to bring it to the storehouse because He want meat in His house. It is there to do (3) Three Things:
 - a. To finance the Kingdom of God. "Spread the gospel of Jesus Christ locally, nationally and internationally."
 - b. To take care of the house of God.
 - c. To take care of the people of God.

H. Embrace God's Results and Benefits of Tithing: (Malachi 3:10-12)

1. God will provide for you.
2. God will rebuke the devourer for our name's sake.
3. The enemy will not be able to destroy the fruit of our ground.
4. Our vines will not cast its fruit before it's time.
5. All nations will call us blessed and we shall be a delightsome land.
6. Your life will be attractive to others.