

PROPHETIC CHURCH LEADERSHIP

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TRAINING SEMINAR LEADER

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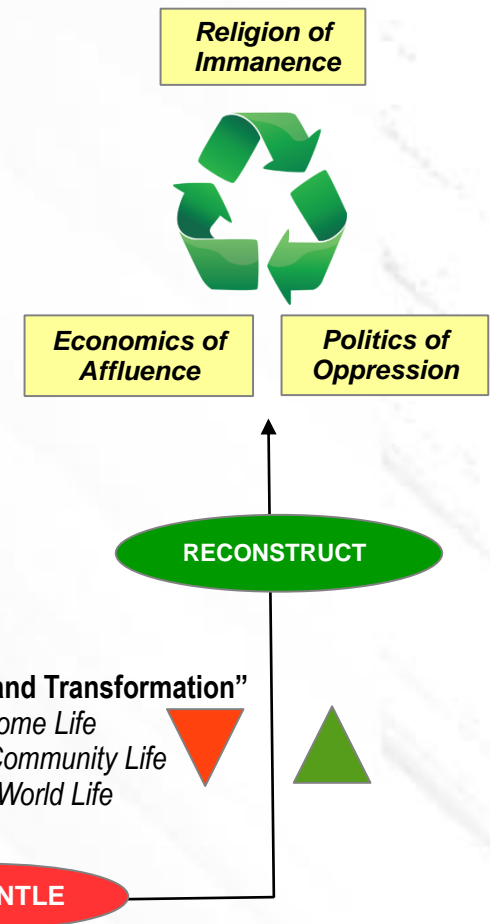
- ❑ **STARTER EXERCISE:** Who do you think you are?
 - ❑ meet 3-people and find out 3-things that describe who they think they are.
- ❑ **FIRST PRINCIPLES:** What is Prophetic Church Leadership?
- ❑ **THE BIG PICTURE:** Leaders Are NOT Born, Leaders Are Made!
- ❑ **GOD-THE FATHER:** Determines A Leader's Destiny!
- ❑ **GOD-THE HOLY SPIRIT:** Forges A Leader's Character!
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FIRST PRINCIPLES: What is Prophetic Church Leadership?

What are the common traits of Prophetic Church Leaders (Clergy or Lay)?

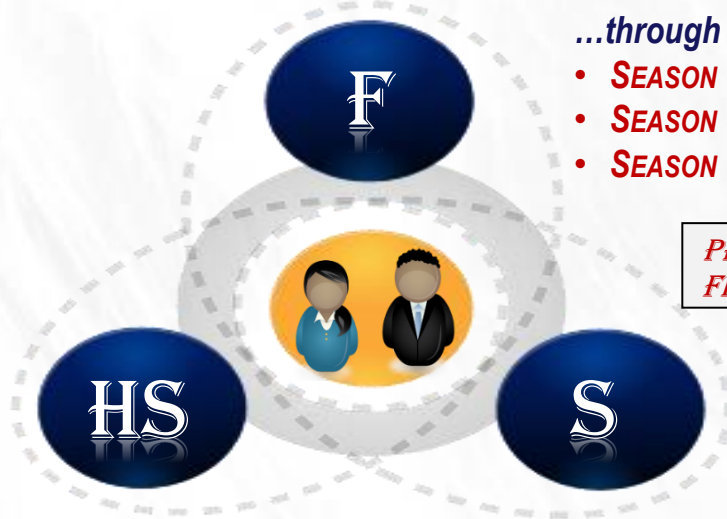
- **Servant-oriented Leaders** who actively promote Christ's Great Commission vision of salvation, deliverance and restoration through a transformative relationship (a new personal narrative) with Christ and his Church (i.e., the Church is a kingdom or theocracy).
- **Service-oriented Leaders** who use their gifts, distinct identities, and ministry positions to influence (through active *spiritual warfare*) their environment to achieve more moral (*good*), and less destructive (*evil*), Christian communities (e.g., the Church is NOT a business).
- **Spiritually-oriented Leaders** who are called to “speak divine truth to secular power”, who control the dominate social narrative (*Royal Consciousness*),” giving voice to the needs, hopes and aspirations of those who are marginalized (e.g., the Church is NOT a social club).

| Characteristics of Strong Prophetic Leaders (adapted assessment from Brueggemann, 2001) | |
|---|---|
| ✓ | <i>respond to the divine call to be God's voice to, and for, a new community</i> |
| ✓ | <i>patiently discern the dominant dysfunctional Church narratives to replace them with God's new prophetic narrative for the Church</i> |
| ✓ | <i>have strong self-differentiated courage to act upon their discernment</i> |
| ✓ | <i>have wisdom to sustain the best of their local Church's faith tradition</i> |
| ✓ | <i>personify the best of their denomination's faith tradition (AME Church)</i> |
| ✓ | <i>partner with like-minded leaders to dismantle dysfunctional dominant societal royal narratives</i> |



THE BIG PICTURE: Leaders Are NOT Born, Leaders Are Made!

God-the Father: Determines our destiny based on the talents he gives us and yearns to develop in us his **Art of Leadership!**



...through three seasons:

- SEASON OF EDUCATION
- SEASON OF VOCATION
- SEASON OF OCCUPATION

**PROPHETIC LEADERS:
FIT FOR THE MASTER'S USE**

God-the Spirit—forges our character and yearns to nurture in us his **Anatomy of Leadership!**

:...through promoting personal growth in 5-major areas:

- SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT
- MENTAL DEVELOPMENT
- CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
- SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
- PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

God-the Son—directs our journey and yearns to produce through us his **Achievement of Leadership!**

...through our 5-step personal journey with Christ where we transform into:

- CHRISTIAN BELIEVERS
- CHURCH MEMBERS
- CHURCH DISCIPLES
- CHURCH EVANGELISTS
- CHRISTIAN WITNESSES

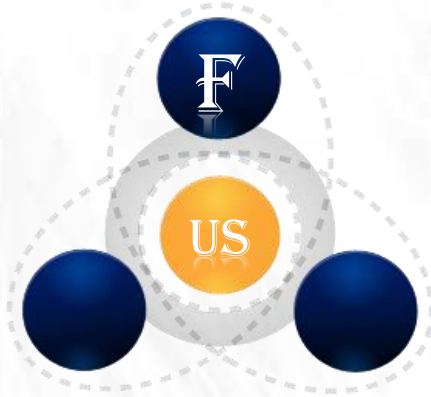


*P.I.C.'S = PROBLEMS, ISSUES, CONCERNS

Ambassadors of Christ

- **God's CALLED**—prepared and chosen
- **God's INSTRUMENTS**—of his divine will
- **God's SOLUTION**—to our P.I.C.'s (Problems, Issues, and Concerns)
- **God's GIFTS**—to our families, communities, nation and world!

God-the Father—determines our destiny based on the talents he gives us and yearns to develop in us his **Art of Leadership!**



...through 3-seasons of our lives:

- **SEASON OF EDUCATION** — Where knowledge and information must be accumulated, but wisdom and experience needs to be developed. Talents are possibly recognized but not developed. Formal training of some type is necessary.
- **SEASON OF VOCATION** — Where wisdom and application experience is accumulated, but fine judgement and compassion needs to be developed. Mentors, formal or informal, are necessary. Talents begin to mature and cluster into gifts.
- **SEASON OF OCCUPATION** – Where the prior seasons have been completed enough for God to move us into our leadership destiny (family, church, community, career, etc.) according to the gifts he has given us!

Art of Leadership Exercise

List Your Leadership Talents/Gifts (top 3)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

List Your Mentors (top 3)

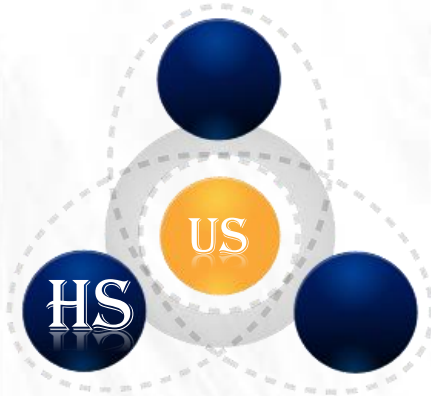
1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

What is Your Leadership Destiny

1. **FAMILY** _____
2. **CHURCH** _____
3. **CAREER** _____

NOTES:

God-the Holy Spirit: Forges our character and integrity and yearns to nurture in us his **Anatomy of Leadership!**



...through promoting personal growth in 5-major areas of our lives:

- **SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT** — Learning God’s laws and their daily application to our lives.
- **MENTAL DEVELOPMENT** — Practicing critical thinking, open-mindedness, and avoiding parochial attitudes.
- **CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT** – Learning to appreciate and embrace our personal ethnic culture.
- **SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT** – Learning to respect and effectively interact with people of other cultures, backgrounds, and sexual orientations.
- **PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT** – Learning to appreciate and respect our bodies, and maintain a healthy lifestyle.

Anatomy of Leadership Exercise

List Your Proactive HABITS for Personal Development

1. **SPIRITUAL** _____
2. **MENTAL** _____
3. **CULTURAL** _____
4. **SOCIAL** _____
5. **PHYSICAL** _____

NOTES:

God-the Son: directs our path and yearns to produce through us his **Achievement of Leadership** on... **OUR PERSONAL JOURNEY WITH CHRIST!**

God's HEAVEN—The Holy Trinity, Angels, Departed Christian Soldiers (Deut. 10:12-14; 2Corin. 5:7-9)

The Kingdom of God
(THE CHURCH—Jesus is the Lord)



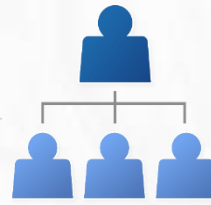
The Army of the Lord
("Newly Recruited" Soldiers)

STEP #2



Church Members

STEP #3



Church Disciples

STEP #4



Church Evangelists
("Special Forces" Soldiers)



STEP #1

STEP #5

God's FREE Gift (John 3:16-17)

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him (NRSV)."

STEP 1: Become a Christian Believer

STEP 2: Become a Church Member

STEP 3: Become a Church Disciple

STEP 4: Become a Church Evangelist

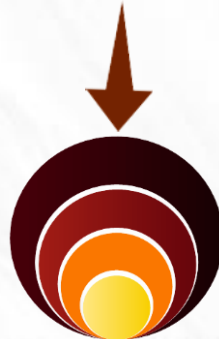
STEP 5: Become a Christian Witness

The Kingdom of Darkness
(THE WORLD—Satan is the Lord)

God's GREAT Commission (Matt. 28:18-20)

Jesus commands his disciple/evangelist (army) by saying: "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age (NRSV)."

*P.I.C.'S = PROBLEMS, ISSUES, CONCERNS



God's HELL—First destination for Satan, Demons, and Departed Unbelievers (Luke 12:4-5)

God's LAKE OF FIRE—Ultimate destination for Satan, Demons, and Departed Unbelievers (Revelation 20:1-15)

God-the Son: Directs our path and yearns to produce through us his **Achievement of Leadership**....on **OUR PERSONAL JOURNEY WITH CHRIST!**

What are the major steps on our Christian Journey?

Step #1: Become a *believer in Christ*, as God's Messiah...**WE ARE CALLED TO:**

- believe in Jesus-the Christ (**John 3:16-21; 20:30-31**)
- be saved by Jesus-the Christ (**Romans 10:8-10**)

Step #2: Become a *church member* and active follower of Christ...**WE ARE CALLED TO:**

- follow Jesus in unity (**Ephesians 4:1-6**)
- be God's co-workers (**1 Corinthians 1:2; 3:9**)

Step #3: Become a *church disciple* and servant of Christ...**WE ARE CALLED TO:**

- love one another and develop a prayer life (**John 15:1-14**)
- study God's word and keep it (**John 8:31-32; 2 Timothy 2:15**)

Step #4: Become a *church evangelist* and trained soldier for Christ...**WE ARE CALLED TO:**

- release God's deliverance power (**Mark 16:15-18; John 14:12**)
- pull down Satan's strongholds (**Ephesians 6:10-18**)

Step #5: Become a *Christian witness* and ambassador for Christ to the world...**WE ARE CALLED TO:**

- share God's love and save souls (**John 20:21-23; 2Corinthians 5:18-21**)
- evangelize the world (i.e., **to recruit new Christian soldiers, Acts 1:4-8**)

OUR PERSONAL JOURNEY WITH CHRIST

STEP_2: "Become A Church Member" Study Outline

❑ **RE-BORN TO LIVE. *The instant we Become a Christian Believer (Step 1), God releases the miracle of new spiritual life in us!***

- The Holy Trinity gives spiritual birth inside of us to someone new inside of us (READ: John 1:1-4; John 3:1-8; 1Peter 1:22-25).
- We become "born-again," spiritually vs. physically, new creatures in Christ that never existed before (READ: John 1:10-12; 2Corin.5:12-17).
- True living is unlimited spiritual life with God (Zoe, the God-kind of life), vs. just limited physical existence separated from God (i.e, death).

❑ **RE-BORN TO GROW. *God built Christ's Church because he knew that His re-Birthing process would produce spiritual babies who would need a new home filled with His love (see orange figures)!***

- We need to be Church Members because we need the covering of Christ's Church for divine spiritual nurturing that only comes from feeding on God's word (READ: 1Corin.3:1-3; John15:1-7; Rom.12:1-2; Psalm 119:105).
- We need to be Church Members because we need the covering of Christ's Church for divine spiritual protection that only comes from living in God's house (READ: Matt.16:15-19; John 10:9-11; 1John 4:4).
- We need to be Church Members because we need the covering of Christ's Church for divine spiritual guidance that only come from the Lord of God's house (READ: Psalm 23:1-3; Prov.16:7-9; John 14:12-18).

❑ **RE-BORN TO SERVE. *God also built Christ's Church to grow an army of servant leaders strong and fit to fulfill Christ's Great Commission (READ: Eccl.12:13-14, see blue figures)!***

- We are called and expected to grow and become co-workers with Christ (READ: 1Corin.1:2, 3:9; 1Peter 2:9)
- We are anointed and expected to grow and learn to follow Christ in God's Spirit of unity (READ: Ephesians 4:1-6)

John 1:1-4_1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **2** He [Christ] was in the beginning with God. **3** All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. **4** In [Christ was and is] life, and the life was the light of men and women. **5** And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it..

John 3:1-8_1 There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. **2** This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, "Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him." **3** Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." **4** Nicodemus said to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" **5** Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. **6** That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. **7** Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' **8** The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit."

1Peter 1:22-25_22 Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart, **23** having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides [m]forever, **24** because "All flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, and its flower falls away, **25** But the word of the Lord endures forever." Now this is the word which by the gospel was preached to you.

1Peter 2:9-10_9 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; **10** who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.

John 1:10-13_10 He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. **11** He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. **12** But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name; **13** who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

2Corin.5:12-17_12 For we do not commend ourselves again to you, but give you opportunity to boast on our behalf, that you may have an answer for those who boast in appearance and not in heart. **13** For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; or if we are of sound mind, it is for you. **14** For the love of Christ compels us, because we judge thus: that if One died for all, then all died; **15** and He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again. **16** Therefore, from now on, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know Him thus no longer. **17** Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

OUR PERSONAL JOURNEY WITH CHRIST

STEP_2: “Become A Church Member” Study Outline

1Corin.3:1-3_3 And I, brothers and sisters, could not speak to you as to spiritual people but as to carnal, as to babes in Christ. **2** I fed you with milk and not with solid food; for until now you were not able to receive it, and even now you are still not able; **3** for you are still carnal. For where there are envy, strife, and divisions among you, are you not carnal and behaving like mere men/women?

John 15:1-7_1 “I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. **2** Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. **3** You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. **4** Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. **5** “I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. **6** If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned. **7** If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.”

Romans 12:1-12_1 I beseech you therefore, brother and sisters, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. **2** And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Psalms 119:105_119 Your word is a lamp to my feet, and a light to my path.

Matthew 16:15-19_15 [Jesus said to his disciples], “But who do you say that I am?” **16** Simon Peter answered and said, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” **17** Jesus answered and said to him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. **18** And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. **19** And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

John 10:9-11_9 I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. **10** The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly. **11** “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep.

1John 4:4_4 You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He [Christ] who is in you is greater than he [Satan] who is in the world.

Psalms 23:1-3_1 The Lord is my shepherd. I shall not want. **2** He makes me to lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside the still waters. **3** He restores my soul. He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name’s sake.

Proverbs 16:7-9_7 When a person’s ways please the Lord, God makes even his enemies to be at peace with him. **8** Better is a little with righteousness, Than vast revenues without justice. **9** A man’s heart plans his way, But the Lord directs his steps.

John 14:12-18_12 “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. **13** And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. **14** If you ask anything in My name, I will do it. **15** “If you love Me, keep My commandments. **16** And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever— **17** the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. **18** I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.

Ecclesiastes 12:13-14_13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter—Fear God and keep His commandments, For this is man’s all. **14** For God will bring every work into judgment, Including every secret thing, Whether good or evil.

1Corin.1:2; 3:9_1:2 To the church of God...to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all [other Christian Disciples] who in every place call on the name of Jesus Christ our Lord...**3:9** For we are God’s fellow workers; you are God’s field, you are God’s building [of Christian Servants].

1Peter 2:9_9 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.

Ephesians 4:1-6_1 I, [the Apostle Paul] therefore being the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, **2** with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, **3** endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. **4** There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; **5** one Lord, one faith, one baptism; **6** one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

OUR PERSONAL JOURNEY WITH CHRIST

STEP_3: “Become A Church Disciple” Study Outline

ANATOMY OF CHURCH DISCIPLES. Being a Member is NOT the same as being a Disciple. Time in Christ’s Church is NOT the same as building his Church. Older Disciples need to mentor younger Disciples. On *Our Personal Journey with Christ*, our most difficult and lengthy personal transformation is from Church Member (which is about our own needs as babes) to Church Disciple (which is about our service to do the Lord’s will).

❑ **TRANSFORMED HEART. God expects His new born Members to actively engaged in Church ministries to cultivate compassionate hearts!**

- *Mature Church Disciples* have cultivated pure and sensitive hearts, through a daily prayer life, that can hear Christ’s voice (Psalm 51:6-8; John 10:14-16).
- *Mature Church Disciples* have cultivated caring hearts, through ministry to the sick and shut-in, poor and needy, and lost souls (Prov.31:8-9; Matt.25:31-46)
- *Mature Church Disciples* have cultivated strong hearts, through community and social justice ministry (Micah 6:6-8).

❑ **TRANSFORMED MIND. God expects His new born Members to actively engaged in Church ministries to cultivate disciplined minds!**

- *Mature Church Disciples* have cultivated new minds, through daily Bible Study, to think like Christ (Rom.12:1-2; Phil.2:5-8; 2Tim.2:14-16).
- *Mature Church Disciples* have cultivated new attitudes, through daily keeping His commandments, to do right in His sight (John 14:12-18).
- *Mature Church Disciples* have cultivated new work ethic, through daily focus on ways to build and advance Christ’s Church (James 1:21-26; Prov.16:7-9).

❑ **TRANSFORMED SOUL. God expects His new born Members to be actively engaged in Church ministries to cultivate accountable souls!**

- *Mature Church Disciples* ask: What can I do for the Church (i.e., ministry roles and responsibilities can I do); NOT what can the Church do for me (1Corin.1:2).
- *Mature Church Disciples* hold themselves accountable, from the Pulpit to the Pews, for the Church’s spiritual health and longevity, as well as the positive atmosphere and welfare in our homes, communities, and jobs (1John 4:4).
- **BOTTOM-LINE.** God wants more Church Members accept the challenge of working each day to become Church Disciples—with the help of the Lord!

Psalm 51:6-8_6 Behold, You desire truth in the inward parts, And in the hidden part You will make me to know wisdom. **7** Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. **8** Make me hear joy and gladness, That the bones You have broken may rejoice.

John 10:14-16_14 I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own. **15** As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. **16** And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock and one shepherd.

Proverbs 31:8-9_8 Open your mouth for the speechless. In the cause of all who are sentenced to die. **9** Open your mouth, and judge righteously, And plead the cause of the poor and needy..

Matthew 25:31-46_31 “When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the [c]holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. **32** All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. **33** And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. **34** Then the King will say to those on His right hand, ‘Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: **35** for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; **36** I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.’ **37** “Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see You [and do these things]’ ... **40** ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me’... **41** “But then He will also say to those on the left hand, ‘Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels... **45** ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.’ **46** And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

Micah 6:8_8 [The Lord] has shown you, O man [and woman], what is good; and what does the Lord require of you But to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?

Romans 12:1-2_1 I beseech you therefore, brother and sisters, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. **2** And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Philippians 2:3-8_3 Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. **4** Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. **5** Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, **6** who, being in the form of God, did not consider it [b]robbery to be equal with God, **7** but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. **8** And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

Our Personal Journey with Christ

STEP_4: “Become A Church Evangelist” Study Outline

CHURCH EVANGELIST. As we complete our basic training and mature to become Church Disciples, Christ then commissions us to do “standard” ministry roles that he expects to be done in each of His Churches, i.e., we are commissioned to do ministry, to save lost souls, and to evangelize our world.

❑ **Commissioned to Minister.** *The word “ministry” means to serve.*

- God expects Church Members, by serving in Church ministries, to become mature and skilled Church Disciples, fit for the Master's use. (*Heb.5:12-14*)
- For mature Church Disciples this means to serve others as Christ served and saved humanity! (*Matt.20:25-28*)
- We should not take our service in the Church for granted. Since God has saved, delivered, and blessed us, we should welcome and embrace our role to serve as coworkers with Christ—through thick and thin! (*2Corin.6:1-10; 2Tim.2:1-4*)

❑ **Commissioned to Save Souls.** *The word “save” means to avoid a terrible loss, especially when something could have been done.*

- For Church Evangelist this means to lead others to saving faith in Christ! For God does not want to lose any souls...In God's eyes a soul is a terrible thing to lose! (*Rom.10:11-17*)
- So we must work on becoming Church Evangelist and whatever else God wants us to be in order to win as many souls as we can for Christ in our lifetime! (*1Corin. 9:22-23*)

❑ **Commissioned to Evangelize.** *The word “evangelize” means to gossip with great enthusiasm.*

- For Church Evangelist this means equipping the saints for the work of Christ's ministry in our communities and nations. (*Eph.4:11-15*)
- For Church Evangelist this also means to passionately share the gospel—which is the good news of Christ—with all who will listen! (*2Tim.4:1-5*)
- **BOTTOM-LINE.** As trained and anointed soldiers in the divine army of the Lord, God calls Church Evangelist to spread the gospel of Christ and release His power, like wildfire, throughout our community, our nations, and our world! (*Mark 16:15-18*)!

Hebrews 5:12-14 **14** For by this time you ought to be teachers, you [shouldn't] need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles [and principles of God's righteousness]; and you [shouldn't] need milk and [you should be able to consume] solid food. **13** For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, [for they are still babies in the Church]. **14** But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use [and consistent work in the Church] have their senses exercised [and are mature and skilled enough] to discern both good and evil.

Matthew 20:25-28 **25** But Jesus called his Disciples to Himself and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them. **26** Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant. **27** And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave— **28** just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.

2Corinthians 6:1-10 **1** We then, as workers together with Him also plead with you not to receive the grace of God in vain. **2** For He says, “In an acceptable time I have heard you, And in the day of salvation I have helped you.” Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation. **3** We give no offense in anything, that our ministry may not be blamed. **4** But in all things we commend ourselves as ministers of God: in much patience, in tribulations, in needs, in distresses, **5** in stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labors, in sleeplessness, in fastings; **6** by purity, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, by the Holy Spirit, by sincere love, **7** by the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left, **8** by honor and dishonor, by evil report and good report; as deceivers, and yet true; **9** as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as chastened, and yet not killed; **10** as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.

2Timothy 2:1-4 **1** You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. **2** And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. **3** You therefore must endure[a] hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. **4** No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier.

Romans 10:11-17 **11** For the Scripture says, “Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame.” **12** For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. **13** For “whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.” **14** How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? **15** And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!” **16** But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed our report?” **17** So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

OUR PERSONAL JOURNEY WITH CHRIST

STEP_5: “Become A Christ Witness” Study Outline

CHRISTIAN WITNESSES. As we mature into Church Disciples and Evangelist (“*Special Forces*” of the Kingdom of God) on Our Personal Journey with Christ, a unique testimony emerges about God’s daily blessings and miracles in our personal lives—for God is faithful!

❑ **SENT TO RECONCILE.** *God sends Disciples who are prepared into the world as his Special Forces to compel to accept Christ as their Lord and Savior.*

• As *Special Forces Disciples of Christ*, God anoints our personal testimony on OPJwC so that we can use it as a tool to help others find his Light and his Way to salvation! (ROMANS 10:11-17)

❑ **SENT TO DELIVER.** *God sends Disciples who are prepared into the world as Ambassadors of Christ to help others to find his divine miracles and deliverance in a world full of problems, issues and concerns or P.I.C.’s.*

• As *Ambassadors of Christ*, God expects us to share our personal testimony with others who are lost and struggling to make it on the dark sea of life—just as God saved and reconciled each of us when we lost and without hope in this world. (2CORINTHIANS 5:18-21)

• As *Ambassadors of Christ*, God anoints us to share the gospel of salvation, to baptized and make new disciples, to heal the sick and cast out demons, to encourage the broken-hearted—and he told them do this all in the power of Christ’s name! (JOHN 14:11-14)

❑ **SENT TO WITNESS.** *God sends Disciples who are prepared into the world as Christian Witnesses to spread his love and promise of eternal life across each new generation .*

• As *Christian Witnesses*, God empowers us to share his divine love and forgiveness with our family, and with our friends. (ACTS 1:1-8)

• As *Christian Witnesses*, God expects us to also share his free gift of eternal life with strangers, and with anyone in our world who will listen. (JOHN 3:16-21)

Romans 10:11-17_ 11 For the Scripture says, “*Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame.*” **12** For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. **13** For “*whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.*” **14** How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? **15** And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “*How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!*” **16** But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, “*Lord, who has believed our report?*” **17** So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God..

2Corinthians 5:18-21_ 18 Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, **19** that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. **20** Now then, we are **ambassadors** for Christ, as though God were pleading through us, we implore [all humanity] on Christ’s behalf, to be reconciled to God. **21** For God made Christ who knew no sin, to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus.

John 14:11-14_ 11 Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves. **12** “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. **13** And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. **14** If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.

OUR PERSONAL JOURNEY WITH CHRIST

STEP 5: "Become A Christ Witness" Study Outline

Acts 1:1-5,8 **1** The former account I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, **2** until the day in which He was taken up, after He through the Holy Spirit had given commandments to the apostles whom He had chosen, **3** to whom He also presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God. **4** And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me; **5** for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." ... **8** But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

John 3:16-21 **16** For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. **17** For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. **18** "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. **19** And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. **20** For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. **21** But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God."

NOTES:

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Rev. Dr. W. Golden Carmon, Sr.
(Biographical Summary)

A North Carolina native, **Rev. Dr. W. Golden Carmon, Sr.** became the Senior Pastor of Mt. Zion AMEC of New Brunswick-NJ in June 2018. He formerly served as the Pastor of Mt. Zion AMEC of Plainfield-NJ for 13-years. He was the Chairman of their Economic Development Corporation, established in 2006. In April 2010, He led that church to acquire a 12,000-sqft edifice and school, situated on a 1.5-acre campus. He serves as the Vice Chairman of the AMEC NJ Annual Conference Board of Trustees. He has served as a NJAC Ministerial Institute instructor of Church Admin., Stewardship and Finance.

Ministry Leadership. From 2001 to 2005, Rev. Dr. Carmon served as Pastor of St. Marks AMEC of Cranford-NJ. There he was a member of the Clergy Council, and under his leadership the church grew and was spiritually revived. Together they paid-off the mortgage, completed facility upgrades, and established a TV ministry. From 1983 to 2000, he served at North Stelton AMEC of Piscataway-NJ in a variety of ministries. These included the Steward Board, Church School Teacher, Prayer and Worship Team, Class Leader, Stewardship and Finance Ministry, Men's Ministry, and the Media Ministry. He served as the Chief of Ministry Staff, and led the hospital and nursing home; sick and shut-in; and, new members' ministries. He was co-founder of the Food Pantry Ministry.

Business Career. In 2014, Rev. Dr. Carmon retired as an IBM Executive where his business career spanned 33-years. His final assignment was leading a global team responsible for the \$4.4 billion annual strategic relationships with IBM's largest global business partners. He also served as Recruiting Executive for Tennessee State University. For 4-years prior to joining IBM, he was a Member of the Technical Staff (MTS) and Telecom Engineer for AT&T Bell Labs.

Ordination and Education. Rev. Carmon was ordained an AMEC Itinerant Deacon and Elder in 1993 and 1998 respectively. He holds a Doctor of Ministry (DMin) from historic Drew University (concentration in Church Growth and Spiritual Formation). He holds a Masters of Divinity (MDiv) from New Brunswick Theological Seminary (NBTS). He also holds a Masters and a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from Cornell University. He completed 3-years of advanced business certifications, required for IBM Executives, at Harvard and Boston University Business Schools.

Family Life. Rev. Dr. W. Golden Carmon, Sr. is married to Rev. Dr. Mattie A. Carmon who serves as Mt. Zion's Assistant Pastor. She holds a DMin from Drew University, an MDiv from NBTS, and a Bachelor of Science from Limestone College. Inclusive by marriage (i.e., son and daughter-in-law's) they have 4-daughters, 3-sons, 9-grandchildren, and 3-great-grandchildren. His motto is: "*Building God's House One Life at a Time*" (Psalm 127:1).