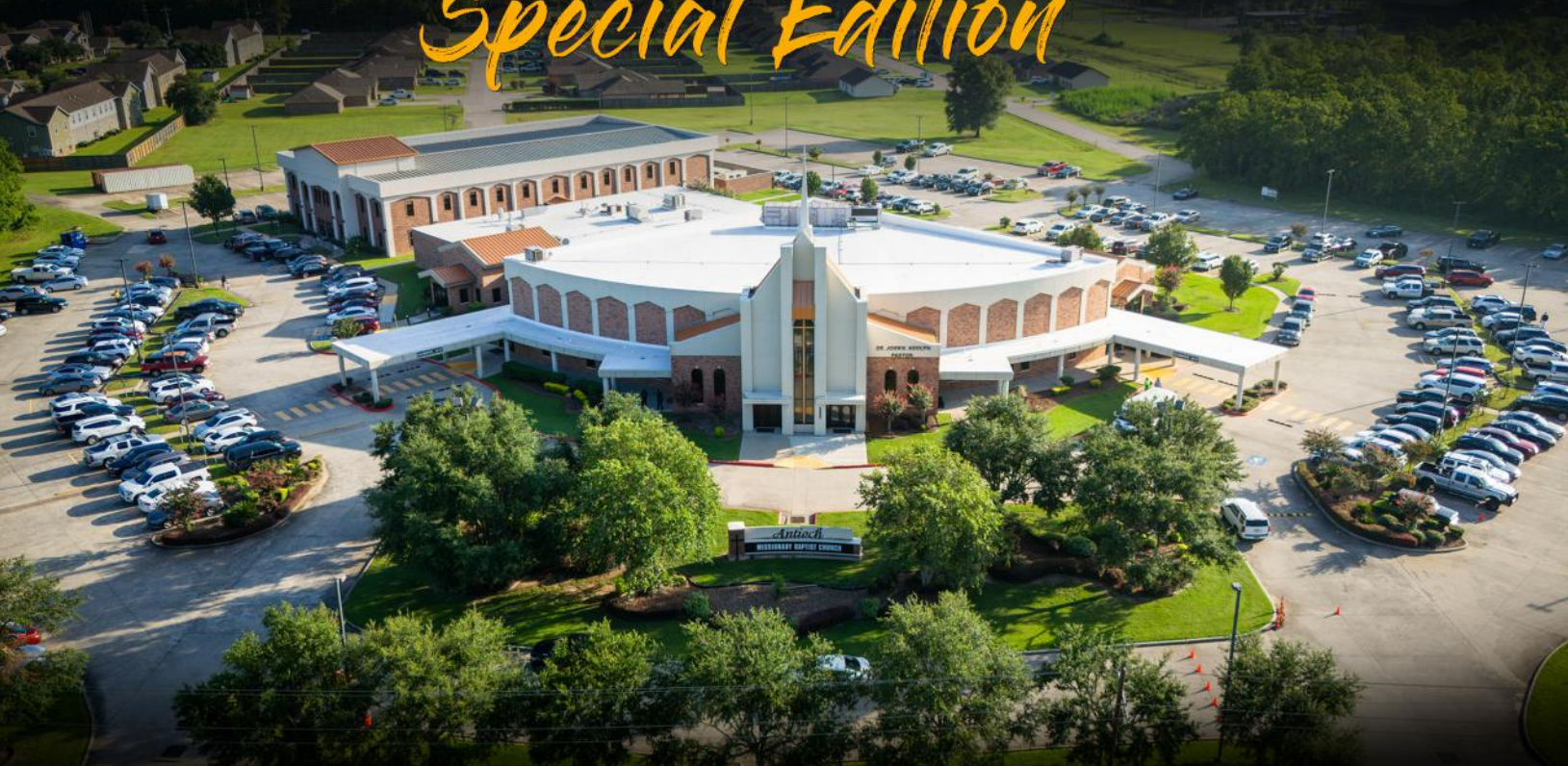




130th

HOMECOMING

Special Edition



DR. JOHN R. ADOLPH

VISION STATEMENT

Antioch Missionary Baptist Church is Christ centered, Biblically based, spiritually led church that meets the needs of the total person by Exalting the Savior, Evangelizing the Sinner, Equipping the Saved, Edifying the Saints and Encouraging every Soul through administrative excellence by the power of the Holy Spirit in Christ Jesus our Lord.



Dr. John R. & Lady Dorrie Adolph

Chief Operating Officers

Dr. John R. Adolph, Pastor
Ms. Felicia Young, Chief of Finance
Min. Brooklyn Williams, Chief of Administration
Dr. Karen Davis, Chief of Ministries
Deacon Jamison Malbrough, Youth Pastor



FROM THE COACH'S DESK...

Dear Faith Family:

"Grace be to you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ." (Eph. 1:2) It is my sincere supplication that as you read this missive that the grace of God has made you aware of the Lord's mercies that have been yours all year long! As I took a look in retrospect I could not help but thank the Lord for all that He has done for our church family this year.

To state it clearly, it has been an amazing year! Hundreds of souls have been saved, thousands of Disciples have been made, all of our church goals have been accomplished, we have touched the ancestral shores of Ghana with the Lord's love, we have watched our collegiate ministry become the largest student organizations at Lamar University, our Men's Ministry has grown by leaps and bounds, our FLO Ministry and Wise Women Survive Ministries have literally doubled in size and the FireSide chat completely ran out of space. The Deacons, Deaconess, Trustees, Clergy, Ushers, Greeters, MOD, Save Our Saints and Feed the Hungry Ministries have taken their servitude for the Lord to a whole different level. In fact for the first time in our 130 year history, we have over 1,000 saints serving at the church!

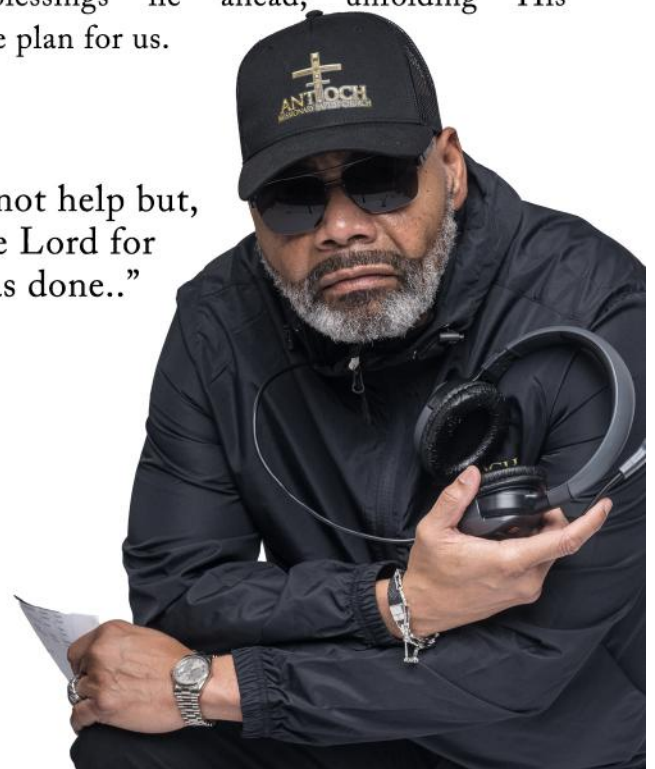
The Hymn Choir has grown to fill the choir loft, the Youth Ministry now has nearly 500 children on its roll, the Media Ministry has developed a church app, and the Golden Years Ministry is as solid as a rock! Most importantly, our Prison and Evangelism Ministries have carried the message of Jesus Christ beyond prison walls and millions have had the

Gospel shared with them thanks to the power of the World Wide Web and various social media platforms.

This year, our church community has engaged in a series of thought-provoking sermon studies, including "Based on a True Story," "Better Together," "I Want Some Too," and we are currently exploring the ongoing series titled "Never Again." Each series was crafted with the intent to give you the Christian-based tools that you need to survive the daily challenges and issues you face.

As I envision the future of Antioch Missionary Baptist Church, I am confident that God will continue to work in extraordinary and abundant ways in 2025, beyond what we can imagine. This past year, we have experienced God's favor in profound ways, and the most encouraging promise is that even greater blessings lie ahead, unfolding His redemptive plan for us.

"I could not help but, thank the Lord for all He has done.."



CHIEF OF ADMINISTRATION



Dear Antioch Family,

On behalf of the entire church staff, we warmly welcome you as you join us in celebrating our 130 Church Anniversary and Leadership Conference. We are thrilled to have you in the "Homecoming Experience". This conference promises to be a time of spiritual growth, fellowship, and inspiration. We have carefully crafted a program to engage your mind, heart, and soul. You will be able to hear powerful messages from renowned speakers and connect with fellowbelievers.

Reflecting on the first three quarters of this year, we are grateful for God's continued blessings and guidance. It has been a period of significant growth, innovation, and spiritual renewal. We are excited to share that 122 individuals have joined our church family this year. This remarkable growth is a testament to the power of the Holy Spirit and the dedicated efforts of our congregation. Additionally, 120 souls have expressed their commitment to Christ through baptism. Our dedicated team of 10 department heads and 48 staff members have worked tirelessly to serve our church family. Their commitment to excellence and passion for ministry has been instrumental in our growth and success.

We are thrilled to announce the launch of our new church app, designed to connect you to our church community and resources. This app and our fully functioning website provide a convenient way to stay informed about upcoming events, sermons, and other important information. Furthermore, we have completed technology upgrades in the fellowship hall, enhancing our ability to host engaging worship services and events.

As we move forward, we remain committed to fulfilling our mission of sharing the love of Christ with our church family, community and beyond. The upcoming year promises to be a time of continued growth and innovation. As we strive for excellence in all aspects of our assignments, we anticipate a heightened focus on member service. We are committed to creating a welcoming and inclusive environment where everyone feels valued and connected. Expect to see enhancements in our programs, services, and facilities to meet the needs of our diverse congregation better.

We aim to provide a five-star church experience where every interaction is marked by warmth, efficiency, and a genuine desire to serve.

Through Administrative Excellence,
Min. Brooklyn D. Williams
Chief of Administration



CHIEF OF MINISTRIES

DR. KAREN DAVIS

In the first three quarters of this year, God has abundantly blessed the ministries here at Antioch. We have witnessed a remarkable season of growth and impact. Through the unwavering dedication and hard work of our Ministry Coordinators, Leaders, and Volunteers, our ministries have extended their reach and strengthened their impact in the community. This report outlines our key accomplishments, significant milestones, and upcoming plans for the rest of the year, as we continue to rely on God's guidance and direction (Proverbs 16:9).

Ministry at a Glance:

We currently have a total of 44 ministries supported by 12 sub-committees. At the start of the year, we had 457 volunteers, and by September 15, 2024, God increased our numbers to 1,065+ active volunteers, including both adults and children. This growth is a testimony to God's faithfulness and the commitment of our ministry teams (Ephesians 4:11-12).

Ministry Highlights:

Our five Ministry Pillars—Exalting, Evangelizing, Equipping, Edifying, and Encouraging—serve as the foundation of our work. We especially commend the Hymn Choral for its growth and consistency in Exalting Ministries, the Prison Ministry and Global Missions for reaching those beyond the church walls, and the Edifying Ministries, including Wise Women Survive and The Marriage Ministry, for building disciples. The Encouraging Ministries, such as Feed the Hungry, Parking Lot Ministry, and Ushers, continue to uplift and support God's people (Matthew 25:40).

What's Ahead for Ministries:

Looking ahead, we are excited about upcoming events, including the "The 2025 ministry budget submissions, Ministry Trunk or Treat" contest, and leader reviews (1 Timothy 3:1-7). We will also conduct volunteer data checks (Colossians 3:23-24) and plan more team-building fellowships (Hebrews 10:24-25). Our year will culminate with the Serve Awards on December 7th, featuring a "Sneaker Ball" theme, where participants will donate new children's sneakers to bless those in need during the holidays.

To conclude as we reflect on these past nine months, we celebrate the substantial progress made, all thanks to the unwavering commitment of our team (1 Corinthians 15:58). Looking forward, we remain dedicated to expanding our impact, serving with love and compassion (Galatians 6:9-10), and pressing onward toward new opportunities for growth (Philippians 3:13-14).

CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER & DIRECTOR OF GLOBAL MISSIONS

A Year in Review

FELICIA YOUNG



From the Desk of the Chief Finance Officer and Director of Global Missions

Praise God from whom ALL blessings flow. As our year 2024 starts to end, I cannot help but marvel at the impact God has allowed Antioch to make again. My position at the church gives me a unique bird's eye view of God's hand on our ministries that change lives within our community- locally and abroad. In 2022 and 2023, God allowed our membership to come together to pay off the church and youth activity center's mortgages. While planning programs for 2024, Pastor Adolph and I aimed to use that same effort to help families pay off their debts.

"Free Indeed," the church-wide program, was launched! Individuals who chose to participate attended free classes and workshops that gave them practical solutions to help them tell their money where to go instead of constantly wondering where it went. The finance department partnered with the media department to produce a weekly podcast aired on YouTube, Spotify, and Apple called "It's Crystal Clear Podcast." Viewers can hear lessons ranging from goal setting to using the "Snowball Method" to pay off loans to eliminating their "Latte Factor" to free up money to fund their God-given dreams.

Families from various economic backgrounds with specific financial goals became intentional about their spending habits. Old debt had to be eliminated to free up their money to reach new goals. To say they knocked this challenge out of the park is an understatement. To date, \$1.2 million in old debt is gone! Student loans were forgiven, credit cards were paid off, cars were paid off, personal loans were paid off and houses were paid off. We give God all the praise, glory, and honor for allowing such a tremendous blessing for our families.

In 2021, we began a partnership with a community in Konkori, Ghana, West Africa, to provide food, school supplies, and uniforms to elementary and middle school children. Because of our involvement, the school population increased, and we constructed a new building to help make room for the additional children. The village did not have a source of running water. Our community came together to provide financial resources to install a water system and water tower so that the school and village could access readily available water. In the summer of 2024, members of the Global Missions ministry, staff, and the Golden Triangle Chapter of the Links made another trip to the village to dedicate the new water system and pass out backpacks, school supplies, and shoes to every student.

In the fall of 2024, hurricanes ravaged our nation's South and East Coast. Our area knows the traumatic impact of these storms, so Antioch jumped into action to help provide relief to families whose lives were turned upside down. Thousands of dollars were donated to purchase supplies and nonperishable items. Members of the Global Missions team traveled to deliver the supplies to our sister church in Valdosta, Georgia, and the Mayor of Tampa, Florida.

God has used Antioch Missionary Baptist Church to build His Kingdom, and He is using each of you as an extension of His hands and heart. I pray that God continues to bless your lives tremendously because of your willingness to say YES to Him.

YOUTH PASTOR

REV. JAMISON D. MALBROUGH



Greetings from the Youth Ministry:

This year has been a dynamic period for our youth ministry, marked by significant growth and change. Personally, a key milestone was transitioning from interim Youth Pastor to a permanent role after an intensive interview process with our Lead Pastor, Chief Officers, and other key stakeholders committed to the well-being of our youth.

A major accomplishment for the ministry was our rebranding. Previously known as G412 under the former Youth Administration, we are now proudly identified as the VIP Youth Ministry, emphasizing Vision, Integrity, and Purpose for Youth in service to Christ. Our guiding scripture, Proverbs 22:6, states, "Train up a child in the way he should go: And when he is old, he will not depart from it." We believe that intentional training is essential for our youth to embrace these core values and fulfill their potential, especially in their Christian walk.

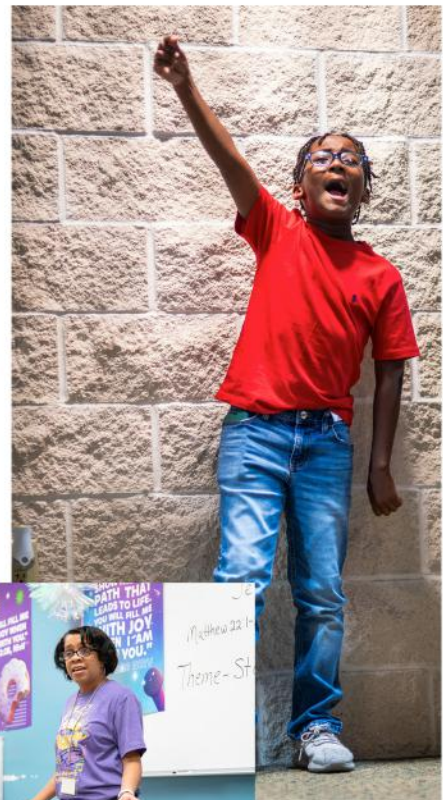
The ministry encompasses 13 distinct programs: His Kids Chorale Choir, Adoration Choir, LOL (Living Out Loud for Christ) Bible Study, Youth Greeters, Youth Ushers, Youth Media, Youth Culinary, Youth Worship Arts, Graduation Ministry, Jacob's Ladder, Christ Debutantes, Christ Gents, the newly established Antioch Youth Council, and the upcoming Toastmasters Jr. This year, our 8:00 service launched with a single class, which has since expanded to three, with plans to add a fourth by year's end.

Throughout the year, our youth ministry has actively fostered growth, service, and fellowship, consistently striving to guide our children toward a Christ-centered life of purpose.

- January: The youth participated in the Martin Luther King parade and attended the Heart Hots Conference for a unique discipleship experience.
- February: Children joined the Black History program, and participated in recordings by the Worship Arts Ministry.
- March/April: High school students earned volunteer hours through Easter activities, including egg-stuffing and an Easter Egg Hunt. The youth also prepared for the annual Easter production.
- April: We recognized our graduating seniors at the scholarship luncheon. Christ Gents also presented young men in a mentorship program where they received guidance from male leaders at the church.
- May: Leaders attended graduations and hosted a baccalaureate service to honor graduates.
- June: Youth assisted senior ushers at an event and participated in the six-week Jacob's Ladder camp. Our teens attended Love City USA camp in Houston, Texas.
- July: A week-long Vacation Bible School was held at the church, followed by a camp in Branson, Missouri. Middle and high school students also attended a financial literacy class receiving knowledge and prizes.
- August: The Back-to-School Bash provided supplies for our students, the children participated in Sunday school graduation and we celebrated one year of youth Bible Study.
- September: The Graduation Ministry, Youth Council gear up for a year of exciting events.

- October: We host our biggest community event, the Fall Festival on October 31st, providing a safe alternative to Halloween. The church transforms into a fairground with rides, games, bounce houses, food trucks, free food, music, and a trunk-or-treat area.
- November: Christ Debutantes presented several girls at the Elegante, where they danced with their fathers or father figures. All participants completed the female mentorship program with Lady Dorrie.
- December: We offer a parent's night out for Christmas shopping and host an annual Christmas play by the Youth Worship Arts Ministry.

Despite our busy schedule, we consistently prioritize quarterly adult ministry outings, Christian Teacher Development sessions, and community service initiatives outside the church once or twice a year. Our dedicated volunteers remain steadfast, embodying the spirit of service with joy and commitment. We wouldn't have it any other way. By leading through example, we show our children the true essence of serving with purpose because we are saved and called to serve.





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PSALMIST
James Mable

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FRIDAY
NOVEMBER 1 | 7PM

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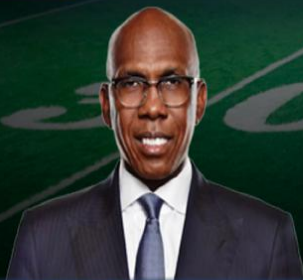
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The Huddle

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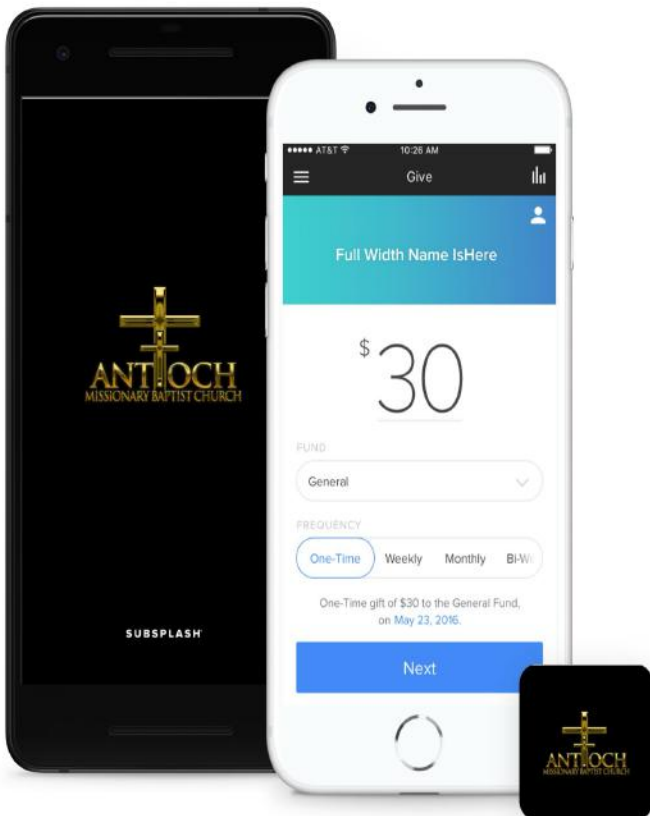
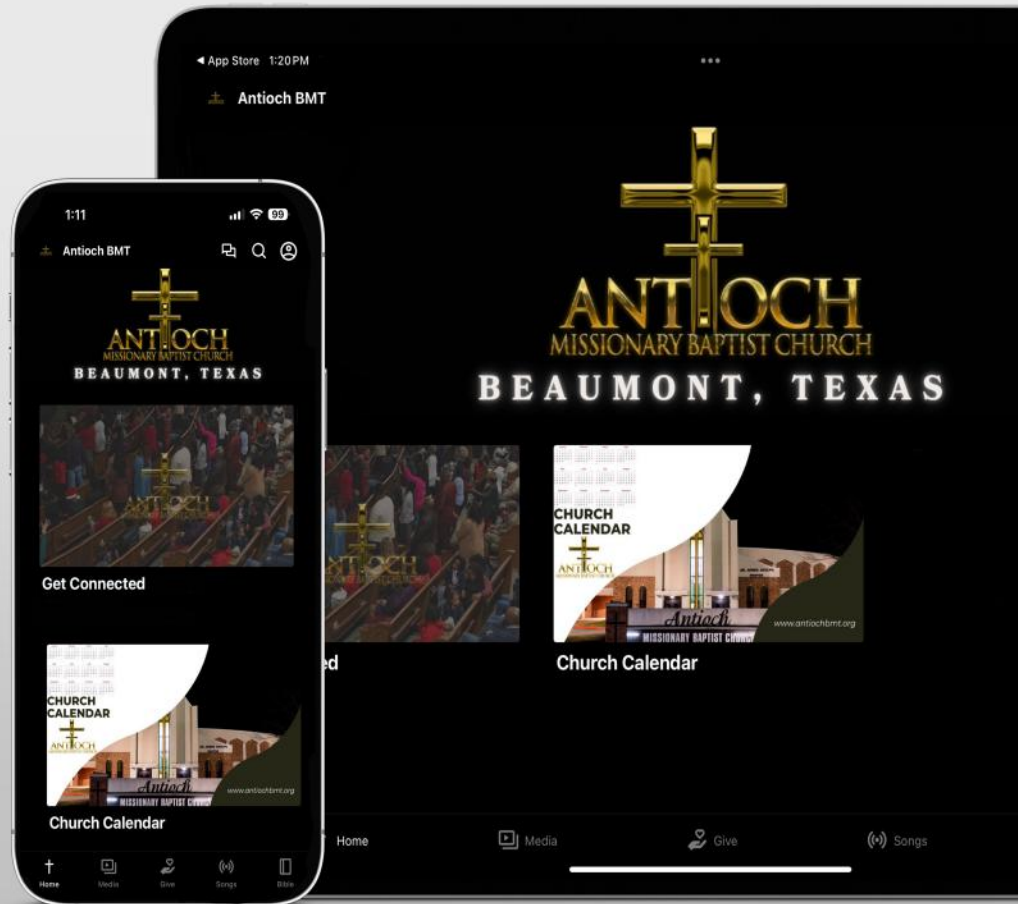
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- What's your story?

I used drugs and alcohol to the point where it consumed my life. Everything I did was centered on drugs and alcohol. It got to a point where I couldn't manage my life. I went to three different treatment centers, and still, I lived life only to exist and get my next high. I reached a point where I couldn't live with the drugs and alcohol and couldn't live without them. I had reached rock bottom. I remember reading my "Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous," and it said that you would come to believe that a power greater than yourself and outside of yourself will restore you to sanity, and that power is God. May you find him now. I began to pray and ask God to take this addiction away. He did not take the desire away quickly, but he eventually did. I owe God everything. I thank you, Lord, for delivering me from myself and allowing me to be sober for over twenty years.

- What was your reaction when you first experienced your situation?

I could not believe that I allowed this drug to get me to the point where I was. I was unemployed and unable to hold down a job because of the drugs. I had gotten to the point of stealing just to support my habit.

- When did you realize that you could not make it alone and needed support from God?

"I serve God because I owe God...I owe Him for His deliverance..!"

Norris

Bennett



After listening to other people in recovery talk about God and how he changed their lives, I realized that every child, boy or girl, has a fundamental idea of God and that I just had to find him for myself.

- What did it feel like to be brought out of your situation?

I felt free. For the first time in a very long time, I was free of all mind-altering drugs. I was free to live my life to the best of my ability. I will forever owe God.

- What led you to become a faithful servant?

I serve because I owe God. I owe him for his deliverance. I owe God because he and he have graciously and mercifully restored me to sanity. My duty now is to be of maximum service to God and my fellow man.

- What would you say to someone facing a difficult moment in their life?

I would say, never give up, keep your faith, and continue to hold tightly to God's unchanging hand. For this, I know he will never leave you nor forsake you.



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Financial Freedom Q&A

ARTHUR & VIRTUE ALEXANDER

- What's your story?

When we were a young couple, we made some poor financial decisions. Now, we are an older couple trying to correct those choices.

- Why and how did you change your habits?

We started communicating more by sitting down together, and instead of watching our money disappear two days before each payday, we decided to sit down and tell our money where to go.

We devised a plan to pay off our credit card debt using the "snowball" method that Coach Felicia taught us in the early episodes of "It's Crystal Clear." Those small victories were important to us because they gave us something to celebrate. Once we started seeing those smaller credit card bills begin to disappear, we started tackling the bigger ones.

- How has the program helped you achieve your financial goals?

The program has helped because it taught us that we had a lot of little bills that we didn't know about. Once we sat down and started looking at our bank statements, we realized all of the little charges that were adding up. We were able to make some changes, which included canceling some services and paying off others.

- What advice would you give church members considering joining Free Indeed?

I would tell them that they want to join and that if they are a couple, they should sit down and watch the podcast together and be transparent. I went a long time in my marriage "hiding" bills and purchases because I didn't want my spouse to know I had another credit card or had spent additional funds that we didn't have, and I was not aware that he was shopping a lot, too. The class allowed us to discuss our finances more, and instead of arguing about finances, we came up with a time to actually discuss and "plan" how we would handle paying off bills.

- What valuable lesson have you learned since joining the program?

We have learned that it is important to be responsible with our resources and that no matter how much debt we are in, we can still find ways to save for our future and, most importantly, give our tithes.

- What training will you take with you in the future as you make financial decisions?

We followed the 10/10/80 rules. Honestly, we were just not saving! We were spending everything and not even thinking about tomorrow. We were shopping like we had money in the bank when we really didn't. We have eliminated some debt, and we are now setting financial goals to eliminate even more. The goal is to be debt-free by the summer of 2025.





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