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# The City Temple Times

## *A Note of Thanks...*

To My City Temple Family,

I want to thank you for my gift in recognition of me earning my Masters of Arts in Teaching from Johns Hopkins University.

Obtaining my Master's was a very difficult process, however, I know it was through your prayers and the grace of God that I was able to reach this milestone.

I will be continuing my education in pursuit of earning my administration certification. As always, I pray that I am continually uplifted in your prayers.

Thanks Again,

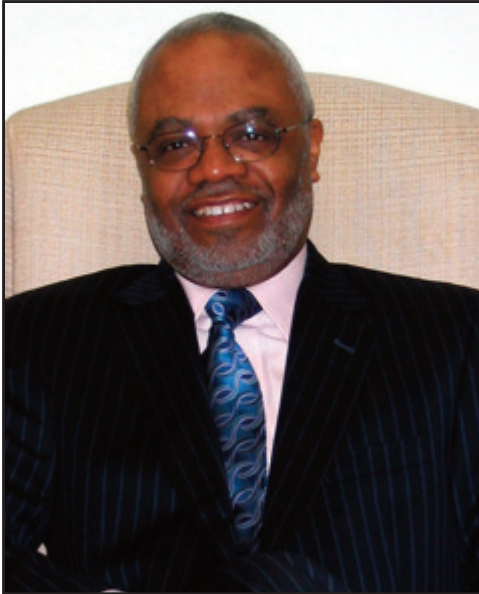
Samuel A. Rather II



Countdown to

# the pastor's

corner



The summer has so quickly come and gone and we look toward the fall of the year. For the City Temple family that means looking forward to the 39th anniversary of the church.

As a part of this year's celebration, the members of the Christian Education Ministry will be sponsoring a daylong seminar on Spiritual Maturity. The purpose of the seminar is to talk about some of the recognizable signs of spiritual maturity and to ask the various ministries of the church to begin to share ideas about how each ministry can facilitate spiritual maturity within its group. I believe over the years we have indeed grown in that maturity, but we can do more to further bring about that growth.

I am asking that every church officer and ministry leader be a part of this seminar. This seminar, however, is not just for the church officers and leaders. If we are to develop new leadership in the life of the church, we will need for as many members as possible to be a part of this effort. Your presence is essential if we are to continue the growth that God through the Holy Spirit has begun in us. I will be meeting with the Christian Education Ministry to help plan the seminar and I will serving as the seminar's leader. We are continue to be about the business of discovering ways whereby we take concerted steps toward spiritual maturity so that we are certain to move from an idea about what we can become to the reality of what we have become.

I am excited about what can happen as the result of our time together in this spiritual maturity seminar. However, in order for the seminar to serve to glorify God, I am asking that all of us commit ourselves to being a part of the seminar and begin to pray that God will guide and direct us as we put the seminar plans into place.

Again, in the words of John's first letter, "...it doth not yet appear what we shall be..." (1 John 3:2). There are great possibilities ahead of us. This seminar is just another along the journey to becoming what God intends for us to be as His sons and daughters.

*Rev. Dr. Grady A. Yeargin, Jr.*

**PASTOR**

## think on these things

"Care about people's approval and you will always be their prisoner." *Lao Tzu*

# Ponder This... Do You Take God **FOR GRANTED** ?



Stacey R. Johnson

Would you say that you appreciate God for all of the blessings that he bestows upon you every second, every minute and every hour of the day? I am sure that you would say that you do appreciate God for everything that He does. I am sure that you would say that you are extremely thankful for everything that He has done and all that He continues to do. So the question is, since we appreciate him and since we are thankful, how do we show our appreciation?

I remember having conversations with my Mother growing up about how our family showed love and appreciation for one another. The four of us, my Dad, my Mom, my Brother and I were not the “touchy, feely” type of family. When I say “touchy, feely” I mean we didn’t walk around telling each other how much we loved one another and hugging each other.

We loved each other; I knew it and felt it. It was evident everyday through

the things that we did for one another, how we helped one another and through the time that we spent together. As I compared my family to others who were more vocal about their love for one another I remember asking my Mother why we expressed our love and appreciation differently. She told me that people can say they love each other all of the time but it means nothing if they show it. Even as a child I understood that.

If you appreciate God and all of the things that He does how do you demonstrate it? It is one thing to say that you appreciate God and that you are thankful for Him but it is another to show your appreciation through your actions. I read a brief article in The Christian Post online from January 2008 and the title was “Do I Appreciate God?” In it the author suggested that one way to show appreciation for God is to honor Him. He defined honor as giving God a high place in your thinking. One example he gave of giving God honor is by telling others how wonderful He is to you. So instead of taking the credit for something when someone gives you a compliment, he suggests giving God the honor by letting that person know

that it was God who blessed you.

This is something that I need to work on myself. I need to ensure that I am constantly giving God the glory and the praise instead of accepting the praise for myself. God does so much for me; He is so merciful and loving toward me. I can’t even begin to put into words all of the many blessings that He has seen fit to give me.

There are other ways that we can show God that we appreciate Him. By being obedient, by doing things for others and letting His light shine through us, by being kind, by singing His praises...the list could go on and on. Let’s make sure that in the midst of our daily lives that we do not expect God to wake us up and that we do not expect God to do the many things that He does. But instead let’s operate in a constant state of thanksgiving where we are always taking the time to thank God for everything and that we are letting others know that it is only with God that we breathe, move, and live from day to day.

***So ponder this...Do you take God for granted or are you showing your appreciation for Him and for all of the many things that He does for you?***

## ministries in motion

### upcoming events

#### YOUNG AT HEART

The Young at Heart -- we are just what our name implies--aging in body but young in heart. We have different speakers come to our meetings to inform us of services for the elderly and how best to use these services.

Ms. Tracy Harvin from Legal Services for the Elderly provided us with

information on living wills; trustee Juanita Morton gave us information on how to prepare for funerals; and Mrs. Nadina Holden presented us with a “Funeral Handbook.”

Ms. Donna Cooper told us how we could convert some of the equity in our homes into tax free funds through a home equity loan.

Dr. Kenneth Dean gave us a tour of and lecture on our historic organ and Mr. Charles Arnette presented the Gospel Jazz Concert for us.

As a ministry, we try to keep our spiritual life alive, keep updated on current information pertaining to the elderly and engage in activities to keep our mind and body together.

## KIDS CORNER

1. The prayer begins with the words "Our Father". To whom are we speaking?

our sister     our puppy     God     our teacher

2. Does the line, "Our Father who art in heaven" mean He is in heaven?

Yes     No

3. "Hallowed be thy\_\_". What word is missing from this line?

car     age     house     name

4. When we pray, "Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven", what does it mean?

- we should do bad things to our family and friends.  
 we should be mean to others.  
 we should be good every day, like God wants us to be.  
 we should not be nice to people.

5. In this sentence, "Give us this day our daily bread", for what are we asking?

- A neon pink hula-hoop.  
 A happy, playful puppy.  
 Hot and buttery biscuits.  
 Basic things we need to live.

6. According to this prayer, should we "forgive those who trespass against us".

Yes     No

7. "Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil". Which of the following choices is a bad thing we could do if we were tempted?

- Cheating on a spelling test.  
 Stealing a pack of baseball cards.  
 All of these.  
 Being mean to your brother and/or sister.

8. "For thine is the kingdom, and the \_\_\_\_\_, and the \_\_\_\_\_ for ever and ever". Fill in the blank.

glory, honor     power, honor     power, glory     honor, glory

## CITY TEMPLE SECURITY MINISTRY



The new City Temple Security Ministry has been serving since September 2008. We consider our service to be an "outpost" of the community of City Temple or, as Pastor puts it, "an outpost of love".

When our City Temple family members and visitors see us, we hope to give them a sense of comfort as they enter and exit our church home.

We count it as a blessing to be able to volunteer security services at our church. Those services include: watching and reporting any suspicious activities around the church grounds, assisting the trustees during the offering, and maintaining a safe environment around the church for its members and visitors.

The members of the City Temple Security Team are Kevin Anderson, Tim Edwards, Thomas Day, Dexter Dixon, Alfred Hines, Kenneth Johnson, Greg Reed, Larry Revell, Stanley Smith, Reginald Stewart, Brandon Thompson, and Randy Tilghman.

## PUBLICATION DEADLINES

A special 39th Anniversary issue of the Times will be published in November. Please submit any articles, pictures or content by Oct. 25 for publication.

## THE TIMES ON-LINE OR BY E-MAIL

See the latest and past issues of The Times in color at <http://www.thecitytemple.org/times>. The Times can be e-mailed to you. Send an e-mail to [times@thecitytemple.org](mailto:times@thecitytemple.org) to join our e-mail list!

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