

March 2012

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# The City Temple Times



## BOOK REVIEW

### *Crowns: Portraits of Black Women in Church Hats*

*By: Michael Cunningham & Craig Marberry*

***“But every woman that prayeth or prophesieth with her head uncovered dishonoureth her head.”*** I Corinthians 11:5

***“Our crowns have been bought and paid for, all we have to do is wear them.”***  
James Baldwin, author

Whether you agree or disagree with these quotes taken from *Crowns: Portraits of Black Women in Church Hats* by Michael Cunningham & Craig Marberry, you’re sure to be intrigued and enlightened by this delightful book. Michael Cunningham, a commercial photographer, has captured the images of more than fifty African American women attired in their most captivating Sunday’s best millinery. The portraits, photographed dramatically with black and white film, offer stunning images of women of color culled from all walks of African American society. They range in age from their early twenties to seventy-eight years old.

As a journalistic accompaniment to Cunningham’s photos, Craig Marberry has collected the stories of these ‘hat queens’, which they recount for him in all their ‘hattitude’ glory. One particular

subject of Marberry’s interviews recites for him her specific hat-queen rules of etiquette— don’t touch the hat, don’t knock the hat, and don’t hug too closely when I’m wearing the hat. His interviews pose intimate insights into the lives, customs, and cultural upbringing of these women and their families. They evoke a rich oral history as the women disclose their love of hats and their spiritual lives and rituals.

Some of the stories address the means by which the owners acquired the hats. Many were purchased, but there are stories of hats passed down from mothers, grandmothers and friends. Some of the ladies were accomplished seamstresses and designers who fashioned their outfits and hats. Many of these illustrious ladies had very large collections of millinery, with one hat queen relating to the interviewer that her private collection included 350 hats.

These ladies love their church, their traditions, their families, their fashions and most of all, their God. For them, dressing in their finest for Sunday services is an obligation. They feel obligated, through their culture and African heritage, to meet the King on Sunday morn-

ing in their finest attire and the hat is the ultimate compliment.

Among the stories related by our hat queens are many fond childhood memories; memories of parents and mentors and circumstances that reinforce the reasons they love wearing hats. A mother who was an ardent fan of hats may have fostered that love in her daughter. A daughter’s remembrance of her father’s compliments about a certain hat that she wore may have had the same effect. An admired mentor, who may have let a girl-child play dress up in her hats may have been a fond memory that later transferred to a love of hats.

More than one of these ladies acknowledged the changes in attitudes about hats in today’s culture. But regardless of whether you’re a ‘hat queen’ who wouldn’t dare be caught without her hat on Sunday morning, are an occasional wearer, or you never wear hats in church, I am sure that if you enjoy fashion, tastefully executed photographs, and stories about the good ole days, *Crowns* will be a pleasurable, easy read.

Submitted by,  
Bernadette Lewis

**WW Payne Outreach Center**  
in partnership with  
**Baltimore City Community College**  
sponsors

## **FREE GED Preparation Classes**

City Temple of Baltimore (Baptist)  
W.W. Payne Center  
317 Dolphin Street  
Baltimore, MD 21217

### **Initial Meetings:**

*3/5/12 at 9 a.m. for morning classes*

*3/13/12 at 5:30 p.m. for evening classes*

## **GED Pre-Test Will Follow the Meeting**



*Morning classes will be held on M, W, F from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.*

*Evening classes will be held on T, W, TH from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.*

**For registration and more information, contact:**

Pat Payne (410) 292-7864

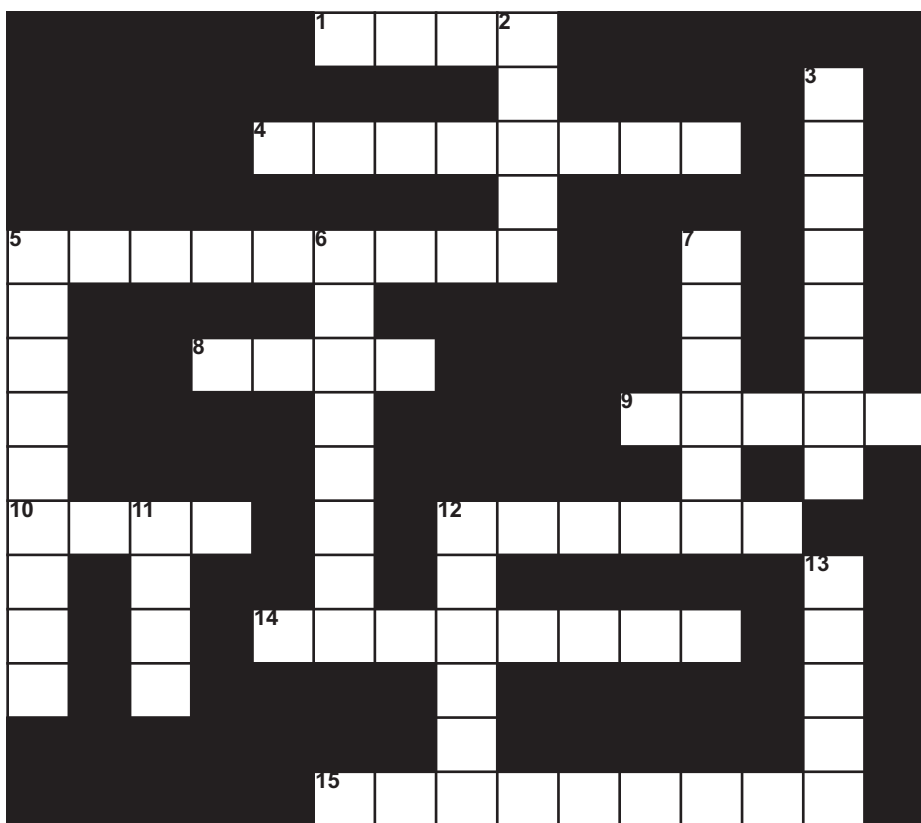
*Between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Mondays - Friday*

# **Together We Can Make A Difference!**

# kid's fun page

games, puzzles & trivia

## The Resurrection of Jesus Christ



### Across

- 1 Where they laid Jesus after He died (Matt. 27:60)  
 4 The place where Jesus died (Matt. 27:33)  
 5 Jesus and two thieves were \_\_\_ together (Matt. 27:38)  
 8 Mother of Jesus  
 9 The angel said, "He is \_\_\_. He is not here." (Mark 16:6)  
 10 They made Jesus wear a scarlet \_\_\_ (Matt. 27:28)  
 12 Jesus was betrayed for \_\_\_ pieces of silver (Matt. 27:3)  
 14 Jesus was \_\_\_ of any crime (Matt. 27:4)  
 15 The 12 companions of Jesus

### Down

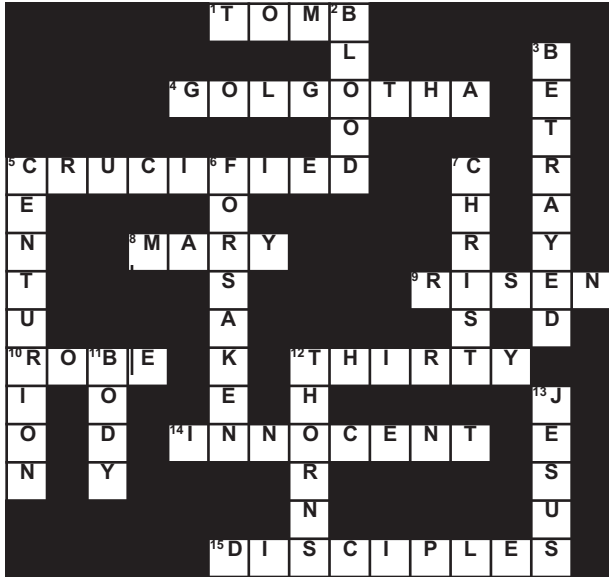
- 2 Jesus shed His \_\_\_ for our sins  
 3 Judas Iscariot \_\_\_ Jesus (Matt. 27:4)  
 5 Roman commander of a hundred men (Matt. 27:54)  
 6 Jesus said "My God, My God why hast thou \_\_\_ me." (Matt. 27:46)  
 7 A title of Jesus (it means anointed one) (Matt. 27:17)  
 11 They laid the \_\_\_ of Jesus in a tomb (Matt. 27:59)  
 12 Jesus wore a "crown of \_\_\_"  
 13 Our Lord and Saviour



## Easter Word Unscramble

1. eoesgfsinrv \_\_\_\_\_
2. ufxcirinoci \_\_\_\_\_
3. arosiv \_\_\_\_\_
4. btmo \_\_\_\_\_
5. rnwoc \_\_\_\_\_
6. hstonr \_\_\_\_\_
7. mtGsaeehe \_\_\_\_\_
8. lCayrav \_\_\_\_\_
9. enirs \_\_\_\_\_
10. aplsm \_\_\_\_\_
11. edeyabtr \_\_\_\_\_
12. slpecsidi \_\_\_\_\_
13. ercunorertsi \_\_\_\_\_
14. sism \_\_\_\_\_
15. oobdl \_\_\_\_\_
16. vniaslota \_\_\_\_\_
17. iralt \_\_\_\_\_
18. mdkiong \_\_\_\_\_
19. viserl \_\_\_\_\_
20. ikss \_\_\_\_\_

Resurrection Crossword



Easter Unscramble

- |                |                  |
|----------------|------------------|
| 1. forgiveness | 11. betrayed     |
| 2. crucifixion | 12. disciples    |
| 3. savior      | 13. resurrection |
| 4. tomb        | 14. sins         |
| 5. crown       | 15. blood        |
| 6. thorns      | 16. salvation    |
| 7. Gethsemane  | 17. trial        |
| 8. Calvary     | 18. kingdom      |
| 9. risen       | 19. silver       |
| 10. palms      | 20. kiss         |

*This note from the members of  
Christian Education...*

City Temple, please welcome our two newest members,

*Ann P. Miller and John P. Shaw,*

who have recently received the right hand of fellowship. Please be sure to introduce yourselves and make them feel at home!

New members, as you seek to become active in church life, please consider joining the Temple Choir. They sing anthems, hymns, and spirituals on the 2nd Sunday of each month. For more information, please see any choir member.



**March**

- Elizabeth Hobson*
- Kendrick Tilghman*
- Veida Harris*
- Robert Russell*
- Doris Hunter*
- Ransom Dean*
- Kenneth Dean*

*Carole Tilghman*  
*Patricia Bonaparte*

**May**

- Devera Barnhill*
- Hugh Jackson*
- Delores Allen*
- Peggy Stewart*
- Gwen Patillo*
- Trudy Revell*
- Michael Williams*
- Toni Standford*

**April**

*Trina Edwards*

**PUBLICATION DEADLINES**

The deadline to submit any articles, pictures or other content for publication in our June 2012 issue is Sunday, May 20, 2012.

**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 also 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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