

Soul Stirrings Easter Special

FAITH MATTERS

...your essential guide to black spirituality

The church remains the largest and most cohesive sector of the black community. Every Sunday, 400,000 black people across Britain regularly attend church. Some worship at traditional denominations such as the Church of England, The Baptist Union of Great Britain and the Methodist church while others attend the new independent congregations and the black Pentecostal movement.

Some of Britain's largest congregations can be found within the black community and the black Pentecostal churches in particular.

Churches that attract large congregations tend to be ones that believe the Bible is the word of God, have a lively atmosphere and preach messages that relate to their followers' every day lives. No topic, whether that of sex, inner city crime, politics or general messages about the Christian character, is out of bounds.

Today's 21st century churches are particularly innovative in their use of communication and media technology, TV and the internet – and are actively involved in their communities.

It's apparent that no matter what criticisms are levelled at the black Christian community, and in particular its churches, there is no doubt they are successful in terms of bringing large numbers of black people together for a common cause, as well as providing inspiration and hope.

The Voice has compiled a list of Britain's largest black churches, complete with service times and their range of community services.

KINGSWAY INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN CENTRE

Founded: 1992. Average Sunday Attendance: 12,000. Service times: Sundays - 9:00am, 11:00am & 7:00pm Tuesdays - 9:00am, Wednesdays - 7:30pm Leader: Matthew Ashimowolo, Senior Pastor Address: 57 Waterden Road, Hackney, London E15 2EE Tel: 020 8525 0000 Website: www.kicc.org.uk Email: admin@kicc.org.uk Community activities: KICC run counselling and pastoral services which aim to stabilize families, provide career and education advice and give legal help. It also runs a helpline. In the past few months members have raised £50,000 for the Tsunami Appeal and £40,000 for the Sickle Cell society.

RUACH MINISTRIES

Founded: 1995. Average Sunday attendance: 5000 Sunday Service Times: 8.30am, 11.00am, 2pm Youth Service & 6pm Senior Pastor: Bishop John Francis. Address: Ruach Ministries, 122 Brixton Hill, London, SW2 1RS. Tel: 020 8678 6888 Web: www.johnfrancis.org.uk Email: admin@ruach-ministries.co.uk Community activities: Ruach Ministries do evangelism and prison outreach work, visits to the sick and provides professional counselling for those experiencing social, psychological or emotional problems.

GLORY HOUSE

Year founded: 1993 Average Sunday attendance: 3000 Sunday Service times: 9am, 11.30am, 7.30pm (1st Sunday of the month). Leader: Rev Dr Albert Odulele. Address: 2 Tabernacle Place, Plaistow, London E13. Tel: 020 7511 1188. Website www.gloryhouse.org.uk. Email: enquiries@gloryhouse.org.uk Community activities: The church runs a sports centre for young people and is linked to Transform Newham, a network of churches which run various social projects such as literacy clubs and pregnancy crisis homes. It also runs BASIC Trust which provides scholarships and medical care, and runs orphanages in the developing world.

NEW WINE MINISTRIES

Founded: 1993 Average Sunday attendance: 2100 Sunday Service times: 9.00am, 11.00am, 1.00pm (Youth Service), 7.00pm (Evening Service – Power Night). Leader: Dr Tayo Adeyemi. Address: Gateway House, John Wilson Street, Woolwich, London SE18 6Q. Tel: 020 8855 5888. Email: church@newwine.co.uk. Website: www.newwine.co.uk Activities: New Wine visits prison inmates, provides career counselling and training for job seekers, and supports to business start-ups. They also raise money for the Mayors Appeal Fund, hold an Carer Award dinner and collect food for Christmas Hampers.

BRITAIN'S LARGEST BLACK CHURCHES



JESUS HOUSE

Founded: 1994. Average Sunday attendance: 1500. Sunday service times: 9am, 11.30am, 12pm teen church, 2.30pm youth services. Leader: Pastor Agu Irukwu Address: Brent Terrace, Brent Cross, London NW2. Tel: 020 8438 8285. Website: www.jesushouse.org.uk. Email: admin@jesushouse.org.uk Community activities: The church visits prison inmates, provides pastoral support for expectant mothers and women with newborn children. It also provides networking opportunities and information to business owners.

EVERLASTING ARMS MINISTRY

Founded: 2001. Average Sunday attendance: 1500. Address: The Civic Centre, 600-608 Old Kent Road, London SE15 1JB. Sunday service times: 9am, 11.30am Leader: Pastor Olukayode Owolabi. Tel: 020 8635 0822 Web site: www.theeverlastingarmsministries.org. Email: info@theeverlastingarmsministries.org Community activities: Provides support for victims of domestic violence; works with the elderly; organises job forums, workshops and support for the unemployed; supplies clothing to charity organisations; gives help to the underprivileged.

HOUSE OF PRAISE

Founded: 1992. Average Sunday attendance: 1000. Sunday service times: 9.30am, 11.30am. Leader: Pastor Andrew Adeleke. Address: 3 Herringham Road, Charlton, London SE7 8NJ. Website: www.houseofpraise.co.uk. Email: admin@houseofpraise.co.uk Community activities: The church provides emotional, spiritual and domestic support for women. It also visits prison inmates and the sick, and runs career seminars.

TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH.

Founded: 1987 Average Sunday attendance: 950 Sunday Service Times: 9pm, 12pm Leader: Rev Kingsley Appiagyei. Church address: 2 Thornlaw Road, West Norwood SE27 0SA. Tel: 020 8766 7332. Website: www.trinitybaptist.org.uk. Email: adminstaff@trinitybaptist.org.uk. Community services: Provides Saturday school

for young people, and various youth activities: drama and fellowship.

HOUSE ON THE ROCK, THE LONDON LIGHTHOUSE

Founded: 1997. Average Sunday attendance: 800. Sunday Service times: 9am & 11am. Leader: Pastor Omawumi Michael Efeuye. Church address: Unit 1, Palace of Industry, Engineers' Way, Wembley, Middlesex HA9 0ES Tel: 020 8782 8778. Website: www.hotr.org.uk Email: admin@hotr.org.uk. Community activities: The church has a drama group, the Illumina Theatre Troupe, donates aid and toys to homes for special needs children and runs a youth music programme.

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Soul Stirrings Easter Special

PREMIER CALLING



A Christian radio station has one voice and one heart this Easter

Premier Christian radio is doing its bit to make sure charity single *One Voice One Heart* makes it to no.1. The song, which will be officially released on March 22, has been put on Premier's vaulted A-list. John Pantry, Premier's breakfast presenter, described the release as "a great record with the potential to go all the way to No.1. We will be playing the single regularly, and I'm sure our support, and that of our listeners, will help in its success".

POTENTIAL

"It demonstrates what can happen when Christians pull together for a worthy cause. We helped get *The Millennium Prayer* to no.1, playlisting it when no-one else would, and now we're aiming to do the same for *One Voice, One Heart*," he said.

Artists featured include Graham Kendrick, Matt Redman, Siani, Raymond & Co, Four Kornerz and Bishop John Francis.

The world famous Abbey Road Studio provided production time at no cost and all the artists involved waived their usual fee.

MIRACULOUS

The money raised will go to the charity Jubilee Action and will be used directly to rebuild an Indian fishing colony destroyed in the disaster.

The story of how the single came together is a truly miraculous one – from orchestras performing for free, to the donation of the world's most famous studio.

"This has been an astounding journey so far – we hope it will end with the song reaching the summit of the UK charts," Pantry said.

The single is the brainchild of Lawrence Johnson, co-founder of the London Community Gospel Choir, who told *The Voice*: "This single has been recorded for a good cause and highlights what can be achieved when artists work together."



Clockwise from above: guitarist Michael Brown; artists at Abbey Road; Lain Grey; Dawn Thomas Wallace and Lavine Hudson

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MAGAZINE ...

Soul Stirrings Easter Special

BRAVE YOUTH

Today's young Christians face huge pressure not to follow their faith



people need a sense of belonging and need to feel proud of who they are and what they believe. There is lots of pressure for them to be involved in all kind of things, but we must make them feel proud of what they are in Christ's image, and not be apologetic."

Martin Saunders has found that the churches that strike a good balance between providing Biblical teaching and establishing a community where young people can get support from their leaders and peers are the ones that experience greatest success in keeping young people on the straight and narrow.



Natalie Tomlinson



Melikah MacDonald

Each generation of young Christians have their own unique challenges to contend with, but today's youth live out their faith under the most incredible pressure, and often it's only the most grounded that can remain true to what they believe.

Martin Saunders, editor of *Youthwork* magazine, a resource for Christians who work with young people, commented: "Young Christians have the double whammy of getting pressure from the culture via the media and from their peers. Christians trying to hold on to their worldview in this society find it very difficult to live a Christian life."

STRUGGLE

University student Melikah MacDonald, 20, is an active member of the youth department at the New Life Wesleyan Church in Handsworth, Birmingham. He said: "One of the key issues young Christians struggle with is their self-image, knowing who they are as individuals and as Christians. Many find it hard to be a Christian and are attracted by what the rest of the world wants them to do."

Melikah is a role model for many young Christians and is on hand to give encouragement and advice. He recalled: "One young girl called me, saying that she was the only person not having sex in her class and asked me: 'What is wrong with me?' I had to tell her that she was doing the right thing by abstaining from sex."

Natalie Tomlinson, 29, serves as youth leader at the New Life Assembly in East Dulwich, south London and works as a learning mentor. She concurs with Melikah. "Lots of young people have issues regarding their sexuality. A lot of them are experimenting, and many can't control their urges. And because Christians shouldn't have sex outside of marriage, they battle with how far they should go in relationships."

In addition to this, young people have to cope with the pressures of drugs and crime, and Natalie has noted that they don't always get the parental support they need: "A lot of kids feel their parents don't care because they are so busy, even within the church. Sometimes they go to every service but ignore their children. A lot of kids feel rejected."

Malikah would like churches to be more vocal in reinforcing Biblical teachings on issues such as sex and celibacy. "Young people need encouragement and support to resist temptation, and they also need relevant, up-to-date teaching that is taught in today's context."

Although being a Christian in today's world can be difficult, youngsters can live out their faith if they get support.

SUPPORT

Sarah Bando, 24, is a member of the New Testament Assembly in Tooting. A Christian for the past seven years, she feels her church gives good support to its younger members. She explained: "It is hard work being a Christian as young people go through a lot more than they did 20 years ago. My church has started running more youth social events. This enables us to meet together more, and it's good to be with people who go through the same struggles. We have mentors who advise us on how we should deal with the things we face, and the speakers at our youth services deal with issues that are relevant to us."

Reuben King is National Youth and Education Director of the New Testament Church of God, one of Britain's largest black Pentecostal denominations. He believes one of the most important things churches can do is help young Christians feel confident about their faith. He says: "Young

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RAJAH BAG THE FINEST SPICES



Soul Stirrings Easter Special

Church leaders offer their thoughts on what Easter means to them

3 WISE MEN

Easter is one of the highlights of the Christian calendar. Here, three prominent church leaders share their insights on the meaning of the occasion.

**BISHOP ERIC A BROWN
NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH OF GOD**

Christ's suffering on the cross is significant for us today because there is no other remedy for sin, for peace and reconciliation with God, apart from Christ.

In Christ's death, God conquered sin so that sin no longer has dominion over the believer. The believer in Christ passes from spiritual death to life, having been delivered from the guilt and judgement of sin.

The believer in Christ has eternal life now



Bishop Eric A Brown

and can look forward to that time when he shall reign with Christ in His kingdom.

The significance does not stop there, however, for his message is still: "But to all who received him, He gave the right to become children of God. All they need to do is trust Him to save them" (John 1:12).

**DR TAYO ADEYEMI
NEW WINE CHURCH**

Life is a trade-off. Every day of our lives, as we make decisions we are trading, negotiating.

With each decision you make, you are trading something you have for something you don't have.

As you make decisions, you are changing your value; either increasing it or decreasing it.

Everyday, you are giving something away in order to become better or worse.

Wise people trade things of lesser value for things of greater value. Foolish people do the



Dr Tayo Adeyemi

opposite.

Today we can celebrate Easter because Jesus made a decision to go through with God's plan - to go to the cross.

Tomorrow, posterity will either rejoice or mourn because of the decisions you have made. It all begins with a decision.

Your future begins now and it all begins with a decision.

**REV DOUG WILLIAMS
EMMANUEL CHRISTIAN CENTRE**

Easter takes us back to the very heart of the Christian faith, and helps us discover the power of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Easter is a good time to set the records straight. The death, burial and resurrection of Christ has



Reverend Doug Williams

changed human history forever.

The Bible teaches that when Jesus went to the cross he disarmed and disgraced demonic powers (Col 2:15). Easter is the scene of the biggest battle in history, and evil lost!

When Jesus died, the bible says he did so in our place, Knowing this, that our old self was crucified with him (Rom 6:6). Jesus died for us and on our behalf.

The Biblical idea is this: to be a real Christian means being willing to bury your old life! No more sin or foolishness, but a real desire live for God and his purposes.

The Bible is full of God's law and requirements for human life. People, however, are always prone to go their own way and do their own thing. The bad news is that failing to live up to God's standards leaves us indebted to him.

The good news is that Jesus did meet God's standards and the merits of his good record can be credited to my account.

The cross of Christ cancelled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us and which was hostile to us (Col 2:14)

The fact is that the message of Easter is good news, and everyone can experience the power of Easter in their life.

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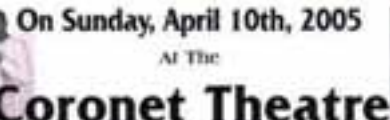
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Soul Stirrings Easter Special

TONEX-FACTOR

Gospel's new star is giving his genre an exciting change of direction



Tonex is tuned up: Tonex will tour in May

One of the most innovative and creative gospel artists around at the moment is Tonex, and since the success of his current album *Out The Box*, and mind blowing DVD of the same name, this 25-year-old is the man everyone wants to see,

hear and watch.

We speak as he's being driven in a limousine, accompanied by his manager and three other staff to record a TV show. His dancers are in the car behind. He informs me that on the following day, he'll be performing at a special showcase – along with Donald Lawrence, the owner of BMG, one of the world's largest gospel music labels.

LOSS

The past 12 months have been a roller-coaster ride for Tonex. The low point was losing his father in late 2004, and the high point was his extraordinary success at the Stellar Awards, one of American gospel's most prestigious events.

Not only did he host it alongside two artists he considers legends – Yolanda Adams and Donnie McClurkin – he also won all six categories he was nominated for, including artist of the year.

He collected the awards with feelings of both elation and sadness. "It was sad that my father wasn't there to share it with me. He played the most intricate part in my musical development. When I was three I used to ask him to play me different kinds

of music. It's due to him I have my wide musical taste."

BOUNDARIES

Out The Box is an album that stretches musical boundaries, and along with his choir, The Peculiar People, Tonex performs gospel, swing, rock, jazz and salsa.

It's also Tonex's third album with Verity Records. His previous releases *Pronounced Toe-Nay* and *O2*. Though critically acclaimed, they did not sell as pundits expected. Tonex admits that he was determined to make his current album a success.

His determination won through with the album making its debut at no.1 in the Billboard gospel charts. "I strategically made a commercially-orientated album. I toned down a great deal, so that I could get the success and next time do what I want."

Out The Box was an apt title as it signifies the kind of artist Tonex is – he defies categorisation. And that's the way he wants it. Many people expect his next album to be similar to his current release but Tonex has other plans. "The next album I do is going to be mainstream. It's

going to be more hip-hop driven. More of an urban inspirational album.

"What's kept me alive is following in the footsteps of artists like Madonna or Janet Jackson, who are always changing and coming out with something new," he said.

Tonex is also a youth leader and pastor, and Easter remains a special time. "What it means to me is life. It highlights that you can kill the body – but not the soul."

The next few months are going to be very busy for Tonex: he has plans to come to London on preaching and singing engagements.

TOUR

In May, Tonex is scheduled to embark on a 46-date headline tour where he'll be joined by fellow Stellar Award winner Israel and New Breed, leading producer and artist J Moss, and Fantasia, winner of the American Idol competition. He is also scheduled to come to Europe later in the year for a series of overdue performances.

With Tonex on the case, gospel music is heading in a new direction. What else would you expect from an artist that is *out the box*?

Talks, banquets and fundraisers

WORSHIP CONFERENCE

Speakers include Reverend Richardson, Isaiah Raymond Dyer and Pastor Philip Thomas. Christchurch, Sumner Road, Croydon, CR0, on March 26, 10am. Phone 07843 208 012 or email exprow@msn.com for more info.

GOSPEL LOUNGE,

Normally monthly, this Gospel group is doing an Easter Special on March 25 at The Kings Suite, Dominion Centre, 9 The Broadway, High Road, N22. Live PAs from Da Witness, Dwayne Lanks and Adelaide McKenzie (feat. Jo Hurst). Also poetry. Hosted by Fay Simpson and Dave P (Choice FM). Admission is £20. Phone 07985 118 747 or 07961 437 629 or visit www.gospellounge.co.uk for more info.

INTEGRITY CONFERENCE 2005,

Hosted by Trinity Baptist Church, takes place from March 27 to April 2 at 2 Thornlaw Rd, West Norwood, London SE27. Speakers include Pastor Kingsley Appiagyei and Pastor Matthew Ashimolowo. Admission is £20. Phone 020 8766 7732 or visit www.trinitybaptist.org.uk for more info.

POWER CONFERENCE 2005

Takes place at the Mount Zion Millennium City Church, Churchfield Lane, Bobbersmill, Nottingham, NG7. The hosts will be Pastor Terrence and Deborah Thompson. March 22-25, 6.30pm to 9.30pm and March 26-27, 10.30am to 9.30pm. Phone 0115 978 7776 for details.

CONFERENCE AND BANQUET

For married and engaged couples, takes place April 8-9, at the Paragon Hotel, 145 Alchester Street, Birmingham B12. Hosted by Carver and Pauline Anderson. Cost is £65 for conference, £30 for banquet only. Phone 0121 313 0410 for details.

GREATER THINGS,

The district youth convention of the Church of God of Prophecy takes place from March 25-27 at Bethel Convention Centre, Kelvin Way, West Bromwich, B70. Admission is £5. Free admission on March 26. Phone 07973 548 991 for details.

EASTER CONVENTION

Of the Church of God World fellowship. At Blackheath Assembly, Kingswood Halls, Kingswood Place, Lewisham, London SE13, March 26-28. Meetings start at 6.30pm. 020 7241 3217 or 07958 547 566.

ALL DAY FUNDRAISER

Featuring music, entertainment, and stalls. Takes place at Emmanuel House, 30 Union Road, Croydon on March 26 at 11am. Admission is £7 (£3.50 children). Call 07961 243 563 for details.

FUNDRAISING CONCERT

For tsunami survivors. On April 2 at Cannon Street Baptist Church, 300 Soho Road, Handsworth, Birmingham. Phone 0121 551 5260 for details.

LEADERS' SUMMIT

The TD Jakes international meeting takes place at Wembley Arena Pavillion, Wembley, on April 21-22 at 7pm. Aimed at individuals who want to develop leadership skills. Visit www.tdjakes.org for details.

US GOSPEL LEGENDS,

The Blind Boys of Alabama will perform at the Jazz Cafe, 5 Parkway, London NW5, on April 25. Tickets £25. Phone 020 7534 6955.

MARVA PROVIDENCE,

Jerry Thompson, Barbara Jones and GK Real in concert April 10, the Coronet Theatre, Elephant & Castle, SE1. £25. Call 020 7703 6473 or 07731 739 960.

Churches need to break out of old prison ministry ways

With rising numbers of black people comprising Britain's prison population, Rev David Shosanya, Regional Minister for Missions for the London Baptist Association, argues that churches need to discover new ways to meet their needs while in prison, and on their release into the community. He writes:

There is a need for a paradigm shift in the way Christians engage in prison ministry. It is no longer plausible to do the 'Sunday morning slot' and then bail out. Prison ministry that focuses solely on 'visiting' when an individual is locked up and 'forgets' when they are released is unsustainable; it is at this point that interaction and support should be intensified.

CARE

I have personally had offenders released directly from the court(s)/prison into my care on more than one occasion. In one case the individual concerned – a pathological alcohol abuser and drug addict – was bailed to reside at our address. Courtesy of his criminal activity our house was raided – I had been married for less than a year and our son was barely two weeks old. The other 'incidents' are too numerous to list.

Prison ministry, I soon found out, is not easy. Neither is it for those whose views of helping others are idealised. Substantive prison ministry only begins when an individual is incarcerated and should continue post-release. It is not enough to say: "When you were in prison I visited you", and "now you're

'free' we don't need to see each other any more". Continued offers of support, friendship, advice and a community to be a part of is essential.

I found this to be of enormous benefit to the particular individual mentioned above. Being able to interact with other Christians at Church and to be part of a community was affirming and challenged his view of himself.

AUTHENTIC

Our 'failure' to sustain authentic relationships with prisoners, continuing to be relevant and exerting an influence beyond the prison walls results, in my view, from the 'visiting paradigm' that has characterised Church-based prison ministry. We need to develop a 'new' approach taken from Matthew 11: 1-3, what I call a 'responding paradigm'. This involves our acknowledgement that prisoners themselves want to know who Christ is, and themselves want to and actually initiate conversations about Christ that arise out of a deep sense of personal crisis. The 'Sunday morning slot' is hugely important – but it is no longer enough.

Research has drawn attention to the fact Christians can and do make a difference. One key theme constantly appears: an exposure to Christian values through Christians that come into contact with prisoners does help. The 'visiting paradigm' fails to adequately provide the context for observation of authentic Christian living that is potentially transformative. Consequently, the transforming power and presence of Christ is not as easily 'accessible' as it could be. This should be our aim in prison ministry. We therefore have work to do.

Soul Stirrings Easter Special

AMAZING GRACE

Through God, Es forgave the men that beat and nearly killed him



From horror to salvation: Es Kaitell

Es Kaitell's journey to becoming a Christian has all the signs of what Easter is about: life, death, hope, healing and forgiveness.

It's a story told in the book *I'm Asking You Nicely* - written by Greg Watts.

Forty-six-year-old security guard Es, began his march towards Christianity when he was badly beaten up by four bouncers using knuckle dusters and baseball bats after demanding one of them apologise for insulting his friend's wife.

His jaw was broken, his cheek bones smashed and his skull had separated in two.

OPERATION

He underwent an operation and had two metal plates fitted in his head and a plastic

spacer placed under his eye to keep it in its socket.

It was at this low point that God began to move in his life. A friend invited Es, an atheist, to church. Es was initially startled at the invitation but found himself saying yes.

HEALING

Es didn't understand anything the preacher said, but felt different when he left the church. "I went in there hating the world. When I came out, half the hatred had lifted." He began by going to church three weeks in a row, and found the hate in his heart slowly decreasing.

He was then invited to a prophetic conference at Kensington Temple. However, the day before the event, the pain from his injuries got worst and he went deaf.

The following day, whilst on the tube to the conference,

Marcus, the man who had invited him to church told Es he should forgive the men who beat him up.

The comment made Es seethe with anger but he says, miraculously, by the time he got to the steps of the Temple a feeling of peace came over him and he found himself forgiving the men. By the time the service had ended, Es had been miraculously healed of his injuries and became a Christian.

SUCCESS

After his conversion, Es transformed how he ran his business and had a meeting with 40 of his bouncers to tell them of his plans.

He still attends Elim Way Fellowship, now known as River Church, and aside from running his security company, uses his time to spread the gospel and pray for people.

Es, just wants his life to reflect his faith. "Jesus is the best thing that has ever happened to me. And I hope he'll use my book as an evangelistic tool," he says.



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Dream is available at all Good Christian Music Stores, online: www.gospel-direct.com or by calling 0845 050 4451

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Ark of Salvation PRAYING MINISTRIES
7, Ethorne Road, London N19 4AJ

Church Activities

WORSHIP SERVICES	10:00am - 11:00am 7:00am - 8:00am Third Friday of the month 11:00am Rehearsal Church No. 1, Wilton Road, Tisbury, Wilt, LA1 4 1 Second St. Thomas Church
WEDNESDAY NIGHTS	7:00pm - 8:00pm 22 Kingsway, London W1P 0LJ
WEDNESDAY & SUNDAY SERVICES	1. Ethorne Road, London N19 4AJ 22 Kingsway, London W1P 0LJ New Arkway (Green Street Lane) 41, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275

Please contact us on:

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Mission Statement
"ARK OF SALVATION PRAYING MINISTRIES" is a full Gospel Church, with the grace to pray in the Holy Ghost, with the manifestation of God's Power in deliverance, healing, prosperity and salvation of souls.

Faith Miracle Ministries

With God All Things Are Possible

THERE IS A MIRACLE in

Faith Miracle Ministries is a ministry of evangelism and edification that seeks to restore the soul of man.

We believe in the one God, and Jesus Christ.

We believe that with God all things are possible, because He is the omnipotent God.

Faith Miracle Ministries is becoming an institution and lives for Jesus Christ and promoting the great news of the Gospel.

Jesus Christ is the source of our life, power, and eternal life.

THE SERMONS THAT MOTIVATE

BY WAYNE MALCOLM - FOUNDER OF CHRISTIAN LIFE CITY

A typical sermon in church today may sound like a personal development seminar delivered by a top motivator. The sermon will often contain strategies for professional success and the preacher will often deliver this in a charismatic style.

For some, this trend represents a departure from the traditional message and spiritual values of the church, while for others it represents a necessary reformation and has attracted many new members to certain ministries. It could even be argued that the phenomenon of the 'mega church' is largely due to its perceived relevance to the individuals that attend it.

As a personal development trainer and a church leader, I, of course, am going to argue in favour of life skills being taught in churches for the following reasons.

Believers are called to a life of witness and service. As a witness, the believer's life is on perpetual display for the world to observe and examine. The scriptures literally call us 'living epistles, known and read of all men.' This means that while we invite others to read our glossy brochures, God invites them to read our lives. I think that the more skillful we are at living, the more effective we can be with others and the more credible our message will seem. What about our service? As Christians, we are called to serve others by making valuable contributions to the church, the community and society at large. Thankfully, the church now recognises that your professional life is very much part of your witness and service and that the more excellent you become professionally the more influence you will have with your peers and the more credible your faith will appear.

Malcolm:
church
motivator