

T.W.O.G.C. NEWSLETTER

July 2011

Finding An Identity In The Word.

Upcoming Events!!!

New Moon
8/29 @ sunset

Giving YAH the Praise

TWOGC will begin observing the New Moon by coming in for service on those days. Please visit the Calendar of Events on the website for the days of the New Moon.

Birthdays

TWOGC would like to remember all the saints who celebrated their birthday in the months of May/June:

Ethan, Mya, Sister Lashay, Brother Anthony Brinson, Brother Dannie, Brother Brandon, Minister Zachariah, Brice, Sister Felicia, Sister Amber, Sister Harris, Minister Malcolm, Brother Dwight, Brother Meeks, Brother Kevin

May YAH continue to bless you all with many more years, according to His will.

TWOGC Welcomes

To The Family:

Sister Quasha, Sister Brittney, Sister Ronda, Brother Daniel, Brother Edward, Brother Cameron, Brother Davontai, Brother Talon

When I first heard of Pastor Smith, it was through an old friend of mine. The first time I heard his sermons was after summer break, while I was attending college. While I listened to Pastor Smith and heard what he was saying, I realized just how little I knew about the information contained in the Bible. I always considered myself a believer although I did not fully comply with the Word, but after hearing how Pastor Smith preached the Bible, I understood how far off the mark I was.



Brother Dwight

I was attending church and was striving to become more faithful during the same time I first heard Pastor Smith. Once I heard the Word, in its purest form, there was an immediate attraction. Even though I was attracted to the Word, I lacked understanding. I followed a former member on a visit to the church and was baptized; but it wasn't because I was convicted to do so. Before I came to the church, I played college football but I was a shy and laid back person. My personal life was as conservative as my attitude. I was not a womanizer but I did attend parties where I would smoke and drink.

Prior to coming into holiness, I had a pretty good relationship with my family. My mom and dad were divorced and as most children who are caught in the middle of a divorce, I was raised primarily by my mom. Although my dad lived in Pennsylvania and my mom lived in South Carolina, she never had a problem with us visiting him. Living with my mother had its drawbacks because I did not have a father figure present in the home all the time. I viewed my dad as being lazy because during holidays like Christmas, it would take him a long time to send money for us to buy gifts. Because my dad was so far away, I felt a void. My mother did the best she could and she taught me as much as she knew, but without a father figure there to stand I felt that I lacked a big piece of myself.

I tried to mimic popular people as I got older because I lacked the confidence of a father growing up. His absence deprived me of the basics. Without him there, I wasn't sure how to be confident with women and I lacked in areas of my life. My mom taught me how to be self sufficient, but she couldn't give me the confidence of a father. I found myself adapting to the behavior of my friends at the time, whomever they were. Looking back I didn't realize not having my father around would lead to a void in my life and that I would look for an identity that would let me be comfortable in a shell I wasn't comfortable in.

When I see Pastor Smith and hear him preaching, I see him as father figure. It is a blessing that I did not have self-confidence prior to joining the church. I say that because if I had confidence, I would probably be out woman chasing. By observing how Pastor Smith conducts himself naturally and spiritually, I see areas where I need to come up higher in. I do not look to be an exact copy of Pastor per se, but I do look to him to help me grow as a man who has his own identity and personality.

I have learned to stand on my own instead of always calling Pastor Smith when a situation arises, or when I need to make a serious decision. It is definitely good to speak with Pastor on some issues, but the Word has taught me to stand and make my own decisions, regardless if people agree with my decisions or not; I make decisions based on the Word. Whether Pastor Smith is here or not, I know how to maintain to the Word. I have come to the realization that I have to be myself and serve God for myself and this will lead to me having my own identity. I know I have to follow leadership, but I am serving God along with them and not serving them as God. In following leadership and standing on the Word for myself I am filling that void with an identity of my own.

Preaching, Teaching, Living, God's Holy Divine Word