

FAITH

and Not by Sight



Living Faith
CHRISTIAN CENTER

January 2021 - Volume 4 – Issue 1

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Calendar of Events

January 19-22, 2021
KCM Ministers Conference

March 16-19, 2021
Joint College of Bishops

June 4-22, 2021
Philippines Conference

Living Faith Christian Center Mission Statement



Our mission is to preach the Gospel of the Kingdom throughout the world, and train Believers how to live independent of this world's system and have dominion over it. To provide Believers a word of encouragement, hope and to aide in the development of their faith. Also, to teach Christians who they are in Christ Jesus and how to live a victorious life in their covenant rights and privileges.

We are called to lead people to Christ, to encourage and provide spiritual guidance, to the place where we will operate proficiently in the biblical principles of faith, love, healing, prosperity, redemption and righteousness, and to the place where we can share those principles with others.

We are called to assist Believers in becoming rooted, grounded and established in the Word of God by teaching them to give God's Word first place in their lives (Colossians 3:23, Psalm 112).

Service Times & Contact Information

Sunday Morning Worship Service @ 8:30am

Tuesday Noon Day Bible Study @ 12:00pm

Tuesday Night Bible Study @ 7:00pm

Web Address: aldowningministries.org and livingfaithsc.org

Phone: (803) 609-5714



Social Media

Like us on Facebook



Subscribe to our page on YouTube



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Follow us on Instagram



Happy New Year 2021

Speaking Engagement Request

If you would like to invite Bishop A.L. Downing for a speaking engagement, the contact info is:
A.L. Downing Ministries
P.O. Box 291808
Columbia, SC 29229
Ph: (803) 609-5714



Bishop A. L. Downing and Lady Inza Downing

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the Gospel to the poor; He hath sent me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and the recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised. To preach the acceptable year of the Lord” Luke 4:18-19

Words of Encouragement

New Wine

Bishop A.L. Downing

To understand the parable, we must understand the process of fermenting wine in the skins of goats. After the flesh and bones were removed from the inside of the goat the skin was tanned over fires of acacia wood. Wine was made by treading barefoot on the grapes in a wine press, a square or circular pit hewn out of the rock, or dug out and lined with rocks and sealed with plaster. The juice then flowed through a channel into a lower vessel, a winevat which functioned as a collecting and fermenting container for the grape juice or must.

In the warm climate of Palestine, grape juice begins to ferment very quickly and there is no easy way to prevent fermentation. After the first state of fermentation has taken place in the winevat, the wine is separated from the lees and strained through a sieve or piece of cloth. After four to six days it is poured into clay jars lined with pitch or animal skins for storage and further fermentation.

Wineskins were made of whole tanned goatskins where the legs and tail were cut off and had been sealed (1 Samuel 1:24; 10:3; 16:20; 25:18; 2 Samuel 16:1). In the Old Testament, the Hebrew word nebel, "skin-bottle, skin," is translated by the KJV as "bottle" which gives us images of glass wine bottles. But these were rather whole goatskins with nubbins bulging out where the legs once were, the neck tied off where the wine has been poured in, the whole large skin bulging almost to bursting as the carbon dioxide gas generated by the fermentation process stretches it to its limit.

This image is well described by Job:

"For I am full of words, and the spirit within me compels me; inside I am like bottled-up wine, like new wineskins ready to burst." (Job 32:18-19)

I want you to notice that before the wine could be poured into the goat skin the opening had to be **SEALED**. They were sealed for two reasons...1. To ensure there were no leaks to let the wine escape and 2. So the fermentation process could take place. If the opening was not sealed nothing could happen either the wine would leak out or the fermentation could not take place. There was something precious, valuable and new being poured into that new wineskin, therefore they had to make sure that all precautions were taken to ensure a proper fermentation process.

God told me to tell you to...Make sure you have all openings sealed tight, because in 2021, He's going to pour something in you that's valuable, it's precious it will benefit not only you and your family, not only the community, but the **NATION**. You may not see how, but do you know who your God is!! He's Jehovah Jireh, Jehovah Nissi, El-Shalom, El-Shaddai ..my healer, my provider, He's my deliverer...



When the neck was sewn shut and the final fermentation process began, fermentation in the wineskin might continue for another two to four months until the process slows down and stops. By that time the skin has been stretched to its limit. The alcohol is probably about 12%, and the collagen protein that gives the leather its stretching ability has been stretched out, and probably denatured by the alcohol, destroying its natural resiliency. Only a new wineskin would have the capacity to stretch during the process of fermentation and not break until the process was finished. If new wine was put in an old wineskin, because the leather skin was dry and cracked, it would probably split and both the wine and the skin would be lost. Therefore, the making of the wine required new wine in new skins for successful change to take place.

Matt 9:17 says, "Neither do men pour new wine into old wineskins. If they do, the skins will burst, the wine will run out and the wineskins will be ruined. No, they pour new wine into new wineskins, and both are preserved." Jesus emphasized that change must first occur internally before external changes should be made. Like old wineskins, the Pharisees had become too rigid in their lifestyle and in their traditions; they could not accept Jesus because he would not be bound by the rules they themselves had set. It was time for change where new approaches, new traditions and new structures were required.

It's time for some radical changes to be made in your life. Time for a **NEW** approach, a **NEW** strategy to an **OLD** problem. You have been circling that problem long enough, it's time for change. **Don't circle it any longer...make the change. Develop a new strategy.**

Jesus has come with a radical gospel of Good News to the poor, the disenfranchised, the oppressed, the sick, the brokenhearted (Luke 4:18-19). He speaks with authority, rather than the casuistry of the scribes of his day. He wasn't concerned about their man-made rules of who he can eat with and how he should fast would just get in the way. He wanted to help them to return anew to love for God and for one's neighbor, to do mercy and love justice and walk humbly with their God.

At the close of his parable of the wineskins, Jesus puts it this way: "And no one after drinking old wine wants the new, for he says, 'The old is better' " (5:39). It's easier to fall back to what is familiar and comfortable, and justify that, rather than launch out into a life guided not by laws and regulations, but led by the Voice of the Spirit of God.

How many times I wonder have you heard the saying "we tried it and it didn't work". I believe it's time we asked ourselves; when was it tried and why didn't it work? The New Wine may not be as smooth to the tongue as finely aged old wine. It may be a bit sharp and unrefined. But it is alive. You can't contain it in old structures. You must find new wineskins for it.

I'm telling you it's time for some **NEW WINE** in your life. Don't you give up now! I know it's been rough and I know you thought your time would never come. But you were going through the **FERMENTATION**



PROCESS. You thought that while folks were treading on you, stepping on you, looking down on you, stomping on you and throwing water on your wounds, but God wouldn't allow you to say anything, He sealed your mouth shut and you were closed up in your house or in some **DARK** and lonely place...you thought that they were just being mean to you and that God didn't care about you or that He had forgotten about you...but He told me to tell you it was part of the fermentation process. He was only stretching you like that wineskin. He told me to tell you. He had to stretch you in order to put in you what He has for you. He had to stretch you to put something new, something precious, something valuable inside of you. Something that "eyes have not seen, nor ears heard, neither has it enter into the heart of man the things that God has prepared for them that love Him." You thought that while you were going through what you were going through that God had forgotten about you. I want you to know that, "All things work together for the good of them that love God and are called according to His purposed."

Now that you have gone through it...**GET READY** for some **RADICAL** changes in your life.

God is getting ready to Pour New Wine on your dead, broken dreams. Don't you give up now.

He's pouring New Wine on hopeless situations, situations you have given up on...New Wine.

This is your year for Divine Favor, Supernatural Promotion and Divine Increase and Prosperity.

I decree, Wholeness, Completeness and Perfection in your life. Get ready for a **RADICAL** change in your situation, in your circumstances and in your life.

I want to share a few testimonies:

My regional manager reached out to my store manager and said he wants to promote me to another store. My manger had spoken highly of me and now wants me to interview for the position and location of the other store. I am so excited about what God is doing in my life!!

M.Z

God so good. I just received my first royal check from my book! Plus, I have been given more typing jobs and writing opportunities that will last at least six months into 2021, Praise God!!

J.S.D.L

I received an unexpected check in the mail. This check had my maiden name on it and I have been married for over 20 years, so the money came looking for me!

J.I.D.

I received a check that was dated from 1991!! I praise and thank God because it came right on time.

M.Z.D.

A Message from Bishop A.L. Downing and Lady Inza Downing



Inza and I are so thankful that you're a part of this ministry. We want you to know we never take your kindness and generosity lightly. And we want you to know we are praying for you and your letters and testimonies mean a LOT to us. Also, we thank you for your faithful generous support.

If you desire prayer please call: (803) 609-5714 and you will be put in touch with an intercessor who will pray with you.

We would love to hear your testimonies. Email your testimonies to: livingfaith@att.net or

Send your testimonies to:

A.L. Downing Ministries

P.O. Box 291808

Columbia, SC 29229 or call (803) 609-5714

HAPPY NEW YEAR and You will walk in Favor, Health and Increase.

Bishop A. L. Downing and Lady Inza Downing

**Happy
New Year!**

How You Can Get Involved...

- Pray about our upcoming events and that we will pay the remaining mortgage off quickly.
- Become a faithful partner and contributor of the Ministry.

Make contributions payable to: [A. L. Downing Ministries, P.O. Box 291808, Columbia, SC 29229](mailto:A.L.DowningMinistries@att.net) or go to the ministry's website: aldowningministries.org. All contributions are tax deductible.

THE WORD OF THE LORD FOR LFCC 2021

The Word of the Lord came to me and said look at the number 21 in 2021. Divide 21 by 3 it will equal to 7. Seven is the number that stand for completeness and perfection both physically and spiritually. This year Living Faith you are coming into a year of perfection and completeness. You are coming into a new and higher level of maturity, a new level of order, and a new level discipline in doing things to perfection.

Then divide 21 by 7 and it will equal 3. The number three represents divine wholeness, completeness, and perfection. I am showing you that you will experience completeness and perfection on new levels this year. I am bringing you up higher and challenging you like never before, because I have **NEW** and **BOLD** things for you to do Living Faith. Yes, you will have and experience wholeness on a new level.

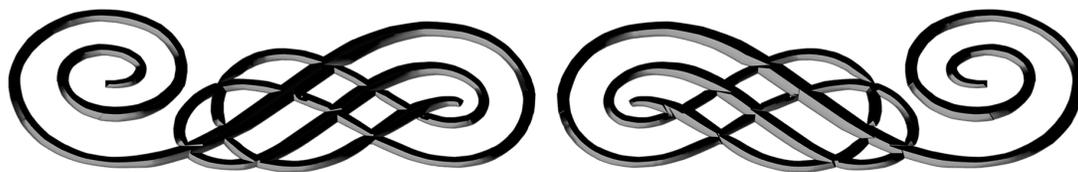
You will experience wholeness in your finances, but you must give to experience it and expect it, because it **WILL** happened.

You will experience wholeness in your health, but you must believe me for it and do your part.

You will experience wholeness in your spiritual growth and development. But, you must have faith because **YOU ARE** going to another level and can't function as in the past and some of your friends, closest friends will not be able to go. They will see you progressing and moving upward, but will not be able to come. Don't worry, they will be alright. They're just not ready and haven't been trained or properly taught. But, you Living Faith are about to experience these three things concerning the numbers 3 and 7. You are about to experience **WHOLENESS, COMPLETENESS** and **PERFECTION**. And you **WILL** experience them in **EVERY** area of your **LIFE**. You will experience them in all you do. I just want you to remember, in all that you do, just do things as unto me and I will honor you and reward you.

Notice I divide those numbers 3 and 7 into 21. But, now multiply $3 \times 7 = 21$. I want you to know **I AM** (my covenant name) am gone to multiply you that many times and many over. This is your year of wholeness, this is your year of completeness, this is your year of perfection and this is your year of being multiplied.

So, Living Faith get ready, get ready for a new level. Get ready to be multiplied for you have found favor in my sight and it is marvelous in my eyes. I know you're not perfect and have faults and flaws, but I'm **TELLING YOU, YOU ARE MARVELOUS IN MY EYES, SO GET READY TO HAVE ALL YOUR NEEDS MET, GET READY TO WALK IN ABUNDANCE AND OVERFLOW...FOR I THE LORD HAVE SPOKEN!!!!**



Lady Downing Thoughts for the Month

“Reduce your interaction with toxic people and your happiness level will go up.”

“God doesn't care what you're not. He cares who you are. You are His. When He adds His extra to your ordinary, nothing is impossible for you.”

“Stop waiting for others to celebrate you.... Set goals, Achieve them, and Clap for yourself!”

“God created you to be full of joy, happiness, love and peace. So why you carrying all that other baggage.”

**“Don't speak defeat over your life.
Think and speak positive over your life and situations.”**

“Keep moving forward no matter how difficult things may seem, that's what champions do.” #WEWIN

“Don't speak defeat over your life. Call those things that are not as though they were.”

“You are victors not victims, you are the head not the tail, you are the apple of God's eye!!!”

“The enemy doesn't fight you for where you are. He fights you for where you are going.”

“You don't have to announce that you're anointed. If you are anointed, the anointing will announce you.”

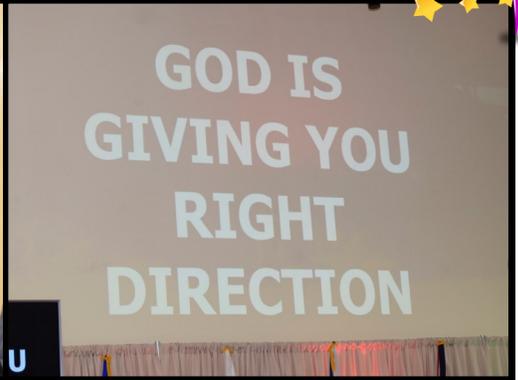
**Be Blessed
'Lady Downing'**



Supporting Our Community...Christmas Food Giveaway



Worship Service, Guest Speaker "Minister Tim Marshall"



Watch Night Service 2020



Living Faith School of Theology



SCHOOL *of* THEOLOGY

Living Faith Ministries

“Reaching the World”

TEACHING PREACHING HEALING

OUR PROGRAM

Living Faith Ministries School of Theology (LFMSOT) offers the following types of Certificates, Diplomas, and Degrees.

AUDIT CERTIFICATE

The Audit Program is for those individuals attending for their own personal spiritual growth. Audit students must attend all lectures and read all text books. Audit students will receive a Certificate of Attendance for each 30-credit hour program completed.

DIPLOMA PROGRAM

A Diploma in Theology is awarded to students who successfully complete their designated first-year program for academic credit (30 credit-hours total).

ASSOCIATES DEGREE PROGRAM

An Associates Degree is awarded to students who successfully complete their designated second year program for academic credit (60 credit-hours total).

BACHELORS DEGREE

A Bachelors Degree is awarded to a student who successfully complete their designated fourth-year program for academic credit (120 credit-hours total)

MASTERS DEGREE

A Masters Degree is awarded to students who successfully complete a minimum of 36 credit-hours above the Bachelors Degree Program for academic credit.

DOCTORAL DEGREE

A Doctor of Ministry (D. Min) is awarded to students who successfully complete 45 credit hours above the Masters Degree program for academic credit.

Classes are held at the main campus of

Living Faith Christian Center

1536 Frye Road

Columbia, SC 29203

For more information call 803-609-5714