

FAITH

and Not by Sight

2 Corinthians 5:7



January 2025 - Volume 8 – Issue 1

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Calendar of Events

June 4-6, 2025
 Conference in the Philippines
 Pastor James & Bridgette Vaught

May 15-16, 2025
 Faith Alive Conference
 Living Faith Christian Center

Living Faith Christian Center Mission Statement

The mission of Living Faith Christian Center is to empower people to live successful lives through the teaching of the Word and Faith principles that will transform their thinking and impact future generations, teaching them to live independent of this world system and to have dominion over it.

Service Times & Contact Information

Sunday Morning Worship Service @ 8:30am

Tuesday Night Bible Study @ 7:00pm

Web Address: aldowningministries.org and livingfaithsc.com

Phone: (803) 609-5714

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Happy New Year
Living Faith
STEPPING INTO
4D

3D

Speaking Engagement Request

If you would like to invite Bishop 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

“THIS IS YOUR YEAR!!!”
(Daniel 1:1-7 and Romans 5:1-8)

Bishop A. L. Downing

As we reflect upon the year 2024, it brought many daunting and challenging situations. As a nation, we have seen political scandals and corruption. The same could be said of our state and its “good ole boy system.” However, with the prayers of the righteous we have seen some changes. As an individual, you may have experienced many highs and lows, disappointments and setbacks. The things that confronted you did not and could not destroy you. But, somehow out of every adversity, I can hear the Lord saying, I Am the Lord God, and I change not and I will have the final word and give the final verdict.

So as we begin the New Year of 2025, we will undoubtedly face many challenges and opportunities. Remember all that you went **THROUGH** in 2024 only made you stronger for what you will face in 2025. Therefore, we can take comfort in knowing that just like He delivered us in 2024 and the years passed and gone, He will deliver us in 2025. There are many things about this year that we should be and can get excited about. First of all, you got to know that no matter what you face this year you already have the victory. Secondly, you got to know that God is on your side, and finally, no matter what we face in the year 2025 we will not experience the intense pressure that a man named Daniel faced. Though this story is 2,500 years old, the message is as contemporary as today’s headlines. In every crisis and trauma Daniel faced, he found opportunity and God used him for good in the world.

Let’s look at this man Daniel. What do we know about him?

Daniel was born into a wealthy family, Daniel 3:3 the King told his chief court official, *“Get some young men from the royal family and the nobility.”* He was a part of the elite of his day. Daniel was a “Renaissance man” of his day. If you will he was valedictorian of his class. He worked hard and studied hard. Chapter One of Daniel says that Daniel had an encyclopedic knowledge of many things in the world: scientifically, socially, spiritually, and politically. They had to understand the language and literature of the Babylonians for three years and to understand their culture before they could enter the King’s service. Daniel was a well-rounded young man. Whenever God does something, He does it well. That’s why we should never ever say, that’s good enough for the church or for church folks. We should always give God our best. The scripture tells us in Colossians 3:23, *“Whatever you do work at it with all of your heart as working unto the Lord and not for man.”* Sing with all our heart. Go to work and give it all your heart. Give your marriage all your heart, the both of you...give it everything you got.

This is Your Year cont...

Daniel had a high social standing. He was a relative of the king of Judah, raised with all the privileges and status of royalty: wealth, power, and education. He probably hobnobbed with kings and dignitaries throughout the Eastern Mediterranean world. He enjoyed a host of servants. With all his wealth and privileges you know he was every young lady's and mother-in-law's dream. He was not proud or arrogant. He was a young man of character. He was not lazy or self-indulgent. He was absolutely committed to God and refused to compromise himself in any area.

Daniel was a young man with a future. He would have been voted the most likely to succeed in his class. But Daniel was caught in a world system and culture that forgot God. God repeatedly sent prophets to warn the people of Israel, but they continued to rebel and live in sin. In 605 BC, God allowed the superpower of that day, Nebuchadnezzar and his Babylonian armies to attack Jerusalem and take over the city.

Before returning to Babylon, Nebuchadnezzar set up a puppet government in Jerusalem and as an insurance policy against further rebellion, he took members of the royal family back to Babylon as captives. Daniel was one of the youngest hostages selected. Nebuchadnezzar's plans called for Daniel and his friends to be rigorously trained and indoctrinated for three years. Then at the age of 17, they would enter the King's service.

I want you for a moment to put yourself in Daniel's sandals. This wasn't the game plan he had planned for his life. In a short period of time, his life was turned upside down. From a carefree teenager to a servant of a foreign king. He was taken from his family and would never see his homeland again. He would never worship in the temple in Jerusalem or see his family again. He lost his spiritual mentors and was taken to a land where God was mocked. He was taken 800 miles to a new home on the Euphrates River.

Daniel faced adversity with a true Christian character. I'm sure he had some doubts and concerns. He may have asked, "Why did this happen to me?" Did God bring judgment on Daniel because of some sin he or his parents committed? Probably not! Daniel and his family were godly people. Daniel was caught in a culture that forgot God. When a nation forgets God, that Nation will suffer, and even though the words say "I rain on the just as well as the unjust." But one thing that I believe is that the righteous know how to get in touch with their God and God will protect them from their sufferings. Even in adversity things can work for good to all that love the Lord. The Apostle Paul could say in Romans 8:28, *"All things work together for good to those who love the Lord and are called according to His purpose."*

Joseph could say to his brothers that sold him to an Egyptian official, "What you meant for evil God meant for good to save your lives and the lives of our people."

At the time Daniel probably didn't see the hand of God at work as he traveled the 800 miles walking, riding a horse, or in a wagon. But God's ultimate plan was for Daniel to influence the highest leaders of power in the

This is Your Year cont...

ancient world. That meant relocation. God was at work behind the scenes preparing a young man who was yielded to Him to play a key role in the preservation and restoration of His people. I'm telling you God has plans for you and your life that you don't know about, that you can't see even though you think you do. His plans for you are much **BIGGER** than what you can think. *"Eyes haven't seen, ears haven't heard, nor has it entered the heart of man the things the Lord has planned for those that love Him."*

As Daniel was surrounded by dust on the road to Babylon, he couldn't foresee that he would advance to the highest positions in the courts of Babylon and Persia. In his later years, he exercised more power than any other member of the Jewish race had ever known. He would also have the privilege of leading his nation in repentance back to God. He turned adversity into opportunities. Don't you let adversity stop you from reaching your destiny. Don't let naysayers stop you from what God is calling you to. Don't allow your circumstances or situation to stop you. You're not what your situations and circumstances say about you nor do you look like it. I didn't say people. I said you're not what your circumstances and situation are trying to say about you. You see they're trying to say you're going to stay down. They're trying to say your credit will never improve. They're trying to say you'll never get the car, the house...but I want you to know that **THE DEVIL is a LIE**. You will get the house. You will rise above what the naysayers are saying, and you will overcome. Not because of you, but because of what's in you. Don't you give up, not now, you're closer than you think. **THIS IS YOUR YEAR!!!**

From the life of Daniel, there are at least five lessons we can learn and apply to our lives as we enter the New Year.

1. You will have some inevitable interruptions in life. They're the In-Between Places.

For many life isn't fair. Bad things happen to good people. The wrong people get robbed and sick. Many people would be the first to say: "This is not the way my life is supposed to be!" "This is not the way I planned my life." They're right! As long as we live in a world where Christ is not honored and respected, we will have to learn to accept the inevitable interruptions of life. Many of those interruptions are painful. Many are joyful. **William A. Ward says: "Adversity causes some men to break; others to break records."** Helen Keller who was born blind once said, "Keep your face to the sunshine and you cannot see the shadows."

2. Don't get hung up about the source of your situation. When adversity comes, it is natural to ask "Why?" We are tempted to play the blame game. "If I had different parents." "If I had better health." "If God hadn't allowed this to happen to me, to my family." On and on -- Every time we are faced with adversity, we have a choice to make. We can sin and yield to Satan or we can make the choice to live by faith. Adversity provides an opportunity to sin or an opportunity to live by faith.

This is Your Year cont...

In every challenge in life, God offers hope. Paul wrote in I Corinthians 10:13. *"No temptation (or test) has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted (or tested) beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted (tested), he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it."*

3. Resist blaming others for the problems you face.

Daniel had every human right to blame Nebuchadnezzar and other leaders for his situation. He refused to blame them but rather chose to honor God and suffer the consequences. Even when put in jail unjustly, Daniel did not become bitter but waited for God's timing. God blessed Daniel for his faithfulness in enduring unjust pain. Someone has said, "A Christian is like a tea bag; it's not much good until it has gone through hot water."

For you to continually blame others for your situation becomes like a crutch to keep you from taking responsibility and your attitude saps your strength to find meaning in life. Did Jesus blame others for the cross? No, he said, "Father forgive them for they do not know what they are doing." It was through the pain Jesus suffered on the cross that provided salvation and forgiveness for the sins of the world.

4. Remember God wants to use you in grander ways than you ever dreamed of being used.

The Apostle Paul continually looked at the big picture. He testifies in 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 *"Therefore, we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So, we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal."*

5. We have the Promise.

Ephesians 3:20 *"Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! Amen."* Because of that verse and many more, I want you to know this is your year and it's filled with opportunities. Opportunities for your vision to come to fruition. Opportunities for your business to grow and expand. Opportunities for you that you never had before. You will walk in favor! As we travel through the New Year we can count on challenging interruptions and adversities. Through faith in Jesus turn every interruption and adversity into opportunity.

LISTEN, THIS IS YOUR YEAR TO MAKE THE SACRIFICE...

THIS IS YOUR YEAR FOR THE GLORIOUS...

THIS IS YOUR YEAR FOR THE MIRACULOUS...

THIS IS YOUR YEAR FOR DIVINE FAVOR AND MANIFESTATION...

THIS IS YOUR YEAR TO BE MORE INVOLVED...

THIS IS YOUR YEAR TO BE MORE DEDICATED THAN EVER BEFORE...

THIS IS YOUR YEAR TO BE MORE COMMITTED THAN EVER BEFORE ...

This is Your Year cont...

THIS IS YOUR YEAR TO MAKE THE CHANGE YOU HAVE ALWAYS WANTED...

THIS IS YOUR YEAR **BUT YOU MUST MAKE THE ADJUSTMENTS. AND GUESS WHAT, IT'S ALL UP TO YOU.**

I want you to know that Inza and I love you and are so thankful for your support and that you're apart of this ministry.

Blessings
and
HAPPY NEW YEAR 2025!!!



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

How You Can Get Involved...

- Pray for our upcoming events.
- Become a faithful partner and contributor of the Ministry.

Make contributions payable to: A. L. Downing Ministries, P.O. Box 291808, Columbia, SC 29229, or go to the ministry's website: aldowningministries.org. All contributions are tax-deductible.

TESTIMONIALS

Bishop, during the church anniversary Pastor Foster began to pray about healing in your legs, knees, ankles and hands. He said you need to make a demand on your healing. I began to make a demand on my healing at that very moment. That night when I went home I walked up the stairs and down the stairs without the use of steadying myself with the railing. I have been walking in my healing ever since. Praise God!!!

R.L.D.

My testimony of "GOD's 4D FAVOR ON ME!!!" I paid for a coach seat 14D, and HE upgraded me to seat 1A FIRST CLASS not once BUT EVERY FLIGHT coming and going. I had the VERY FIRST seat 1A EVERY FLIGHT! I was the FIRST person the flight attendant came to. My printed boarding pass had 14D on it. When I got it from the lady at the counter it never left my hand. After I prayed for the pilot and the plane, I walked inside the plane, heading back to 14D. God said (Not something said), look at your boarding pass (PAPER) again. I looked, and it had SEAT 01A! I said, "Ohh, What OK!" and turned around. Jesus changed my printed boarding pass! I sat in my seat and pulled out my phone to look at my digital boarding pass. It had 14D, and it changed before my eyes to 01A. Then, on my return flight, AFTER I PRAYED THE WORD, He revealed I had SEAT 01A AGAIN!!! Bishop has been teaching the importance of praying the Word! Every time He revealed MY BLESSING it was immediately following my prayer.

SJ

Bishop I had received a letter stating that I owed the government \$14,000, stating they had overpaid me and that I would have to pay that back. That Sunday Bishop prayed for me and I received it. That following week the social security administration sent me another letter stating that they owed me \$16,000. I started praising God. The following week after that I went to the bank I was going to give my 10% of the \$16,000. The bank teller asked me where did I go to church at, that's a lot of money. And I said no, I go to Living Faith Christian Center 1540 Frye Road, where the Bishop A.L. Downing resides at. All this is going to do is give me more blessings. God is going to bless me more. After I did that I was in a car accident in DC, no fault of mine. The lawyer called me and said they had cut me a check for \$11,000. And that I would receive a check for \$5,727. When you give tithes and offering the windows of Heaven are open up upon you.

R.D

I went to my doctor to have a checkup on my heart, blood work, a leakage with a valve. Well, when it was all done, everything was perfectly fine and normal. He stated that he didn't know what was going on with the other exam. But I do. Praise God for my healing.

F.D.L.

TESTIMONIALS cont...

In the beginning of 2024 I started having all types of medical issues. Allergies, sinus issues and funny feelings in my chest. I was making several trips to the doctor and having test after test after test done. Doctors were giving me all kinds of medicine and antibiotics and this was costing more and more. As time went on it would clear up and then it would come back. Growing up I had heard about healing but I really did not know what healing was. In April I was put on a heart monitor. It showed signs that I needed to see a cardiologist. I saw the cardiologist in July they scheduled a stress test. Once I had these test the cardiologist felt that it was a much more urgent matter and needed to be looked at immediately. The doctor scheduled a heart cath. Up to this point I had not told many people about what was going on with me. On Tuesday night Bible Study, I went to Bishop and told him I was having a heart cath. He has been preaching all year long on faith, miracles, and favor. That night he prayed over me. And when he prayed over me, he demanded that that spirit leave me. That it is not welcome and to get out. I immediately felt better. This was in September. A week later I go into the hospital and I have the heart cath. The cardiologist comes back in and says oh the test must have been wrong. That happens sometimes. But I truly believe that I had my miracle because I was claiming it from the very beginning. I truly believe that that night when Bishop demanded that spirit to leave that it left. All of the allergies and sinus issues cleared up as well. I am healed. I have my miracle. Praise God!

SN

Bishop I have a Praise Report. During Watch Night Service you said this is your year. I received it. On January 2nd several things happened. I booked a repeat client for my business, I booked a new client for my business, I booked an appointment with an editor/proof reader to assist me with finishing my book, I began working with a webpage designer to assist with redesigning my webpage (God said this is where my new clients are going to flow from), and the Holy Spirit gave me a new idea for a children's book series that I am going to write. I had also asked God for additional camera equipment to assist me on my travels this year. I was given all the items I wanted and more as a Christmas gift. This is my year! God is doing great things in my life.

D.R.

*Blessings
and
Favor*

TESTIMONIALS cont...

From Fiji

Pastor, when you came to Fiji, I texted you a message on that Saturday morning when you first arrived. I informed you that my baby was sick and wasn't breathing properly. You instantly texted me back and told me you were praying for her NOW. I want you to know my baby is fine. She's eating and getting stronger. The doctors that examined her and saw what was wrong was confused as to how everything cleared up and she able to breathe.

Pastor, I want to thank you and your team for coming to Fiji. I was having back problems before and during the conference. When Pastor Foster declared that back problems were being healed. I received my healing. The back problem and pain I was having is all gone.

Pastor, thank you for coming to Fiji, I received my healing. The man of God called out weak ankles, too weak to hold up the body weight. That was me, but now my ankles are strong and I'm able to walk without any issues.

Pastor, as the man of God called out migraines, I received my immediate deliverance from migraines and headaches. Praise God!

Pastor, I accepted Jesus as my Lord and Savior on Saturday morning during the conference and was baptized the next day which was Sunday. I can already tell a difference in my life.

Pastor, thank you for coming to Fiji and teaching and preaching on Ownership Faith, with a Godship Authority. I remember you saying how Pastor Bill Winston spoke to the rain as he was leaving your church to get to his airplane and it stopped. Then you said later at a different event your wife spoke to the rain and told it to go away until your event was over and it did just that. Well we heard that. So when it started to rain on Friday afternoon just before the night service, some of us at the conference in our area spoke to the rain and commanded it to stop and go away and it did!!! Then it tried to rain again on Saturday afternoon. We spoke to it and told it to go away until the conference was completely over. It did and we had clear skies and warm weather for our baptismal services on Sunday as 21 people were baptized. Praise God for your teaching on Godship authority.

Blessings and Favor

Lady Downing Thoughts for the Month

“It’s time to soar with the eagles.”

“Discouragement and being stuck could come from trying to breathe life into something that’s dead. Let go and Let God!”

“If we would get up every day expecting God's favor, we will see God begin to do amazing things in our lives.”

“Refusing to learn from a mistake is the same as volunteering to feel the same pain all over again.”

“Don’t stop trusting God because the problem showed up. Even the problem has to bow before God.”

“Be anxious for nothing...cast your cares on Him.”

“God is so AWESOME!”

“God has won the VICTORY for us, there is no need to fight your own battles. Give it to God.”

“If you truly believe you can do all things because Christ gives us strength, then what are you waiting for?”

“God has given you dreams but you’ve been sitting in the boat. It’s time to step out and watch God!!!”

**Be Blessed
‘First Lady Inza Downing’**

Living Faith School of Theology

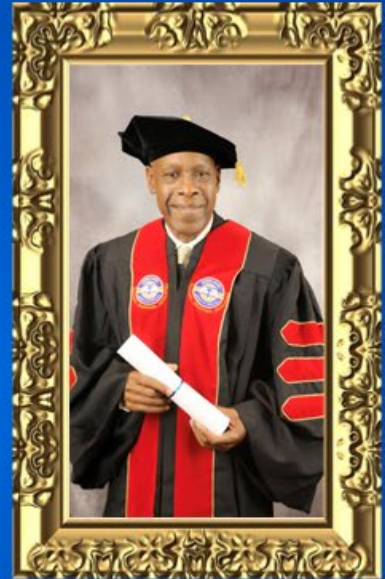
DOCTORAL GRADUTES



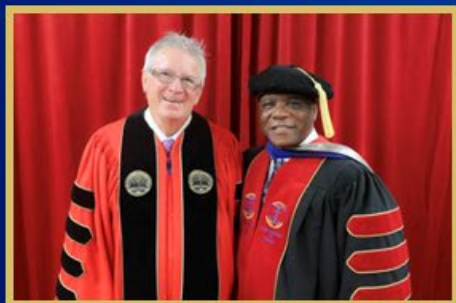
Dr. Inza Downing



Dr. Michelle Guider



Dr. Curtis Hamilton



Watch Night Service

Stepping into 4D

THIS IS YOUR YEAR!!!



BAPTISM

Remsburg Family

Jesse Jr., Tristan, Christopher, and Aaron



Kendra Mills



**Kendra Mills and
Briana Pressley**



Congratulations Everyone!



LIVING FAITH CHRISTIAN CENTER

21 DAY

FAST

January 1, 2025 to January 21, 2025



SUNRISE

PRAYER

**January 18, 2025
6 AM**

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ENROLL TODAY

All classes are open to any student who wants to audit the course. The cost for auditing a course is \$75 per month. FMI about auditing a course call 803-609-5714

DECEMBER 4-18TH

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETS I

Dr. Darryl Hollowell



THE HOLY SPIRIT

Doctoral Candidate Rev. Michelle Guider



JANUARY 8-29TH

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETS II

Dr. Darryl Hollowell



THE SIX TRIALS OF JESUS I

Doctoral Candidate Rev. Curtis Hamilton



FEBRUARY 5-26TH

GOSPELS I

(COMBINED WITH LIFE OF CHRIST)

Dr. A. L. Downing



THE SIX TRIALS OF JESUS II

Doctoral Candidate Rev. Curtis Hamilton



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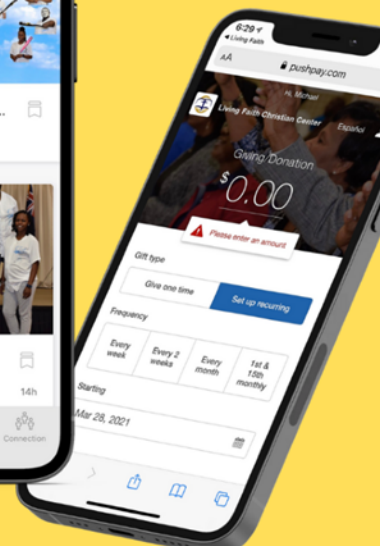
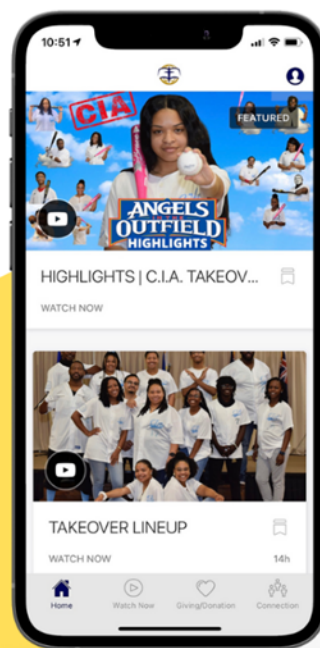
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OUR PROGRAM

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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. Audit students may later convert their audit credit to an academic degree credit by completing additional work requirements (tests, papers, and labs) and paying the additional tuition for the degree program.

DIPLOMA PROGRAM

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

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For more information call 803-609-5714

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