

# The Single Perspective

Newsletter of the International Single People's Alliance (ISPA)  
of the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World (PAW)

*Releasing the Power Within You!*

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## A Pastor Covered in Prayer

**SP: What are the benefits of being a single pastor?**

**District Elder Hamilton:** That you have more time to do the work of the ministry without the obligation of having a wife to tend to, so you don't have the challenges of trying to balance to make sure that you're giving your companion the time that she deserves and the time that she needs. Sometimes, ministry can be so demanding!

**SP: What are the challenges of being a single pastor?**

**District Elder Hamilton:** One is when you have single sisters coming to your church, you have to create boundaries because a lot of them will come. They want to be saved but they have other motives. They have an intention sometimes that they don't reveal to you. And secondly, the opposite of not having to try to balance a companion is the challenge of not having a wife. You should have support, someone who has your back, someone who can cover you in prayer.

**SP: How do you set boundaries?**

**District Elder Hamilton:** You set boundaries by number one, making sure that you do not allow females to do excessive stuff. I had to change my number because a lot of them were texting me at late hours and nights, and it wasn't anything



*District Elder Brian Hamilton is pastor of Transformed Life Church in Piqua, Ohio.*

appropriate. It's just, they had too much excess access to me. So you have to set boundaries, even though I don't have a wife. And you have to be able to recognize that's what they're trying to do and kind of shut it down.

**SP: Now you mentioned a person who covers you in prayer. How would you describe the person who covers you? What are their duties?**

**District Elder Hamilton:** Well, I think one of the first ways is that

ladies know ladies and women are women. And a lot of the times men can be very naive as to women's motives. You may think that they're just being nice and, or you're just being nice to them. A lot of times older ladies in the church will come up and say, So-and-So, they like you, or I see So-and-So in your face. And most of the time I don't even recognize it. If I had a wife, that's probably the one of the first things that she would probably bring to my attention. Secondly, praying for me and maybe thirdly, just another thing as a pastor is a lot of times, people are not honest with you about things that you might be doing or the way you might be saying something.

And I know when I was married before sometimes my ex-wife would say, maybe you need to say that a little nicer, or you said so-and-so across the pulpit, or you were talking too long. Everybody has a blind side. Some people can tell you things that you need to know, but their motives are not always right. Or they don't always have the best intention in telling you. Sometimes, people just want to knock you down another peg.

**SP: As the single father of a 14-year-old daughter, what should other single parents know about being a parent?**

*Continued on page 4*

# Editorials and Opinions

If you have any concerns or comments regarding articles or opinions expressed in the *Single Perspective*, please email them to [singleperspective@yahoo.com](mailto:singleperspective@yahoo.com) and include the subject line of Letters to the Editor.

## The Priesthood in the Midst of a Pandemic

by Elder Marlon Dickson

We are living in a very difficult season. We're dealing with a pandemic, racial injustices, unemployment, and job crises. The Christian church must design herself for the test that's happening this year. This is the time for the people of God to band together and stand up as priests of God. I believe that every saint has direct access to God through Jesus Christ.

We must clearly understand the role and the purpose that's been entrusted to us as priests to carry out this great gospel of God. We as a church must impact this generation in such a way it will bring man back to the working relationship with God!



**Elder Marlon Dickson attends Zion Pentecostal Church under the leadership of Bishop C. Wayne Brantley in Cleveland, Ohio.**

The word priest means to set apart. The job of the priest was

to keep the flame burning. In the Old Testament, God called the nation of Israel to be a chosen people. Exodus 19:6 states: **“And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.”** The New Testament reads in 1 Peter 2:5: **“Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus**

*Continued on page 4*

## ISPA Executive Board of the PAW



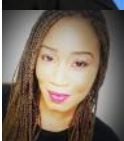
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### The Single Perspective

The purpose of the *Single Perspective* newsletter is to inform and edify single saints. It is published bimonthly (February, April, June, August, October, December) during the first week of each of those months, Lord willing.

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### ISPA's Upcoming Events

**Turning Pressure into Power**  
Saturdays at 9:00 am EST  
on Facebook Live

**ISPA Prayer Conference**  
March 26 and 27, 2021

# Waiting for Change and Fulfilling God's Purpose

By Evangelist Cherlyn A. Williams, ISPA President



When we walk with God, it may seem nothing is changing and everything is remaining the same. I know it appears that there is no change, but trust the Word that you are changing. As you read God's Word, do you fully understand that His word is molding and shaping you into becoming a better you? The Word will tell you what isn't appropriate or the right thing to do. The Word will lead you.

Do you realize the suffering that you are experiencing, the challenges you're going through, and the pain that seems so unbearable is making a new you? It's allowing you to look up and call on Jesus. Remember: **"I will lift up my eyes to the mountains; From where shall my help come?"** (Psalm 121:1, NASB).

Your friends and family can't help you when God has a particular road that you alone must travel. Jesus had a need to go through Samaria in John 4:4. If we look at the location on a globe, you'll see that Judaea was a region in southern Israel, Samaria was in central Israel, and Galilee was in northern Israel. Since the Jews despised the Samaritans, they often traveled east of the Jordan River to avoid Samaria while the Jews traveled between Judaea and Galilee. The Jews didn't want

anything to do with the Samaritans because they had mixed Jewish and Canaanite blood; also, the Samaritans centered their worship at Mount Gerizim instead of Jerusalem. Yet, Jesus had a need to go through Samaria because of His purpose to save souls.

It was essential for Jesus to pass through Samaria because of His purpose for the Samaritans. He spoke to a Samaritan woman at a well in John 4:7-14. Jesus said, **"Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again; but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall never thirst; but the water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life."** After the Lord told her in verse 18 that she had five husbands, she was convinced that He was the Messiah. As we read in verses 28 and 29: **"The woman then left her waterpot, and went her way into the city, and said to the men, Come, see a man, which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ?"**

Many Samaritans of that city believed on Him from the personal testimony of the woman who said He told her all that she had ever done. When the Samaritans came to Him, they asked Him to stay with them, and He did for two days. Many Samaritans believed because of what they heard Jesus say. They told the woman, Now we believe, not because of your saying: but we have heard Him ourselves, and know that this is indeed is the Christ, the Savior of the world (John 4:39-42).

Many unbelievers want to change but sometimes we saints allow our own personal prejudices relating to how they look, talk, act, dress, or even what they believe to cause us to refrain from telling them about Jesus. Instead of avoiding them and sharing the gospel only with people like ourselves, we should reach out to these precious hearts. God will bless your efforts with a bountiful harvest of souls saved for all eternity.

Today and specially during this pandemic, people desperately need the Lord! We have the honor of sharing the gospel of salvation with



It is with great sorrow that the International Single People's Alliance announces the passing of our dearly beloved sister in Christ, Cheryl Mitchell. She was a wonderful friend, a supportive team member, and a diligent servant of Jesus Christ. Sister Mitchell began her service with the ISPA during the summer of 2014. At that time, she served as the ISPA Assistant Treasurer. In 2018, Sister Mitchell was elected as the Treasurer of the ISPA under the leadership of Evangelist Cherlyn A. Williams, President, Bishop Jeffrey D. Goldsmith, Auxiliary Liaison, and Bishop Theodore Brooks, President.

Be it resolved that on Friday, August 21, 2020, the day of her homegoing, that Sister Cheryl Mitchell faithfully walked with the Lord and was fully committed to serving her local church, her community, the Illinois District Council and the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World, Inc.

We bow to our sovereign God and His will to call her from earth to glory as we await that day when we shall meet her again. **"...Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord...that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them"** (Revelation 14:13, KJV).

them. Do you see why Jesus had to go through Samaria? The Lord is telling you to travel down a particular road, to be obedient, and to follow His<sup>3</sup> guidance, and you will be blessed!

# A Pastor Covered in Prayer

*Continued from Page 1*

**District Elder Hamilton:** That it should be looked at as an awesome opportunity to help mold and develop another person's life. And that, although we have ministries, callings, and gifts that we are to give back to our church and to God, we also should take the responsibility that God has given us. The Bible said the fruit of the womb is the reward. When we start looking at that as a reward, that God has rewarded us to give us the ability to mold someone else's life, we've got to be grateful for it and make it the priority. We need to make sure that we're doing what we're supposed to be doing.

**SP:** What do you feel is your most important message to singles in today's church?

**District Elder Hamilton:** Just making sure I'm intentional and I think everybody else needs to be intentional. You must have a strategy. You have to have a system, and be willing to make the sacrifice. And I've just come to understand, this life is going to be over way quicker than we realize it's going to be over.

We just have to make every day, every moment count. And so many people are just sitting back waiting for things to happen. I was just thinking that just because we're in the church and we have the Holy Ghost and we're praying that these things that we desire are just going to come to pass, but they're not unless we collaborate with God, so we have to be God-fearing intentional! And we, as married or single saints, need to be intentional.

If you're looking for a companion, you need to be intentional about that! What are you doing to prepare yourself and to better yourself for that person to come? I am prepared quite honestly to go either way. I desire a companion, but I also am very realistic about myself that if I'm not putting the work in, or if I have issues that I'm not getting resolved, that's going to challenge me in a marital situation. Then, I might never be married again. It has a lot to do with me versus putting it on God.

**SP:** Okay. That's a really important thing to bring out because so often we're told, wait on the Lord and I think that's a different message that you're saying. I think it's a very important message because in the Bible, people are always doing something when God calls them; they're not just sitting around waiting.

*Continued in the December 2020  
ISPA Newsletter*

## The Priesthood in the Midst of a Pandemic

*Continued from Page 2*

**Christ.** Peter is speaking of us, the born again believers baptized in Jesus' name and filled with the Holy Ghost.

Revelation 1:6 states: **“And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to Him be glory and dominion for ever and ever.”** Amen! We need to realize that we have a responsibility to each other: to pray for one another and to assemble ourselves unto God. The priesthood and holiness go together! We are lively stones. We continually

offer the sacrifices of praise. This we do because we are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, and a holy nation: a people of His own. It is a must that we show forth the praises of Him who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.

During a recent men's retreat, we started a campfire. The wind was blowing and the fire started to die down. Every now and then, the flame would get really low. The brothers would put pieces of wood on top of the tiny flame and the fire would start blazing up. It reminded me of the words in the song “Pass It On”: “It only takes a spark to get a fire going/ And soon all those around can warm up in glowing...” That's how it is with God's love. Once you've experienced it, you spread His love to everyone You want to pass it on. We must be identified with the power of God unto salvation. We keep the flame going through the Wind blowing. It is our responsibility to keep the Fire going. We are the representatives of God.

James 5:16 indicates: **“Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.”** Fervent means hot and burning. Is your prayer burning for souls? We must activate and stimulate the power in ourselves to such an extent that others will be engulfed in the love of God and they will lose themselves In the love of God! We must identify as born-again believers. We must be willing to submit to the authority that is given to us by the unction of the Holy Ghost.

We are the bearers of the Good News of Christ. Jesus is the True Light. We are to shine as lights in the world (Philippians 2:15). We have been set apart. We are the salt of the earth and a light of the world. The priest was to make intercession between God and man. As leaders, we must stand in the gap for our brothers and sisters.

The late Ruth Bader Ginsburg said, “Fight for the things that you care about, but do it in a way that will lead others to join you.” We as Christian priests should lead people and put a burning desire and flame in them that they would fight that good fight of faith and endure to the end!