



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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Anticipating 31 Days of Prayer!

by Evangelist **Cherlyn A. Williams, ISPA President**

As we approach the festivities and celebration of the birth of Christ, we thank the ISPA Executive Board staff, our Auxiliary Liaison Bishop Jeffrey D. Goldsmith (Diocesan of Oklahoma), and our Presiding Bishop Theodore Brooks, along with the staff of the PAW, for making this an awesome year! Most of all, we thank you, the people of God, for your prayers and your financial support. As we embark on 2021, God has great plans for each of us according to Jeremiah 29:11: **“For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end”** (KJV).

The ISPA Prayer Line

We have prayer every day of the week at 6:30 am EST. Why not join the prayer line tomorrow morning with the faithful prayer warriors and intercessors who are on call 365 days a year?

You're at liberty to give your prayer request(s) or your testimony about God's goodness and mercy. The prayer warriors and intercessors are on alert 24 hours a day to pray for families, the bereaved, the sick and shut-in, plus pastors and leaders around the world! We bless you every morning with a word of encouragement through the Scriptures and prayer. We realize the Word of God is molding and shaping you into the person God wants you to become!

31 Days of Prayer

By supporting ISPA, you're helping us to reach singles of various backgrounds. In your giving, go to Givelify - PAW select ISPA at the bottom; PayPal - PAW select ISPA at the bottom. In CashApp, \$pawoffering and type in For



ISPA. We graciously want to thank you in advance for your support of the ISPA ministry.

The ISPA Regionals

We would like to thank all who participated in our virtual East Coast Regional meeting held October 24, 2020, the West Coast Regional held November 14, 2020, and our International Regional held December 5, 2020. The topics were Light on the Hill, Fear and Faith, Covid-19, Servant, and Releasing the Power within You. This is our first year for Regionals! Follow us on Twitter and Facebook. We are encouraging you to follow us every Saturday at 9:00 am EST on Facebook Live with Scripture Power: Turning Your Pressure into Power! Help us grow even more in 2021!

ISPA Virtual Holiday Night

This online public event begins Friday, December 18, from 8:30 pm to 9:15 pm EST. Activities include introductions, announcements, karaoke Christmas caroling, district sharing, and fellowship on Facebook Live—Access us via International Single People's Alliance (ISPA).

ISPA Virtual Dating Game

The free, public game begins on Friday, February 12, 2021, from 8:30 pm to 9:30 pm EST. Access us on Facebook Live via International Single People's Alliance (ISPA).

2021 Prayer Conference

Our Virtual Prayer Conference is coming up Friday, March 26 and Saturday, March 27, 2021! Mark your hard copy or digital calendars. Registration will be \$12.

God is everlasting. He is God of all you can see or imagine. God doesn't get tired. He knows you inside and out! God renews your strength daily, even during difficult times. People are worried about Covid-19 and/or how they are going to make it. The Scriptures remind us that God will supply all of our needs if we trust Him. Those who wait upon God will get fresh strength. They will spread their wings and soar like eagles. They will run and not get tired; they will walk and not fall behind. Saints, we know the answer and it is prayer, so join us! Start the New Year with believers like yourself. We're on the move!

**Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year!**

Editorials and Opinions

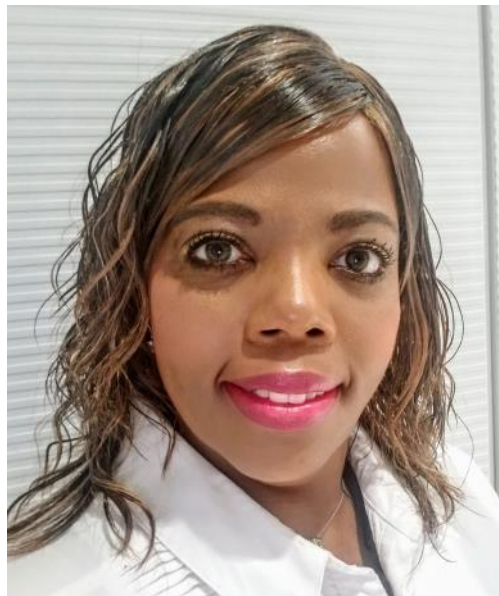
If you have any concerns or comments regarding articles or opinions expressed in the *Single Perspective*, please email them to singleperspective@yahoo.com and include the subject line of Letters to the Editor.

Covid-19 and Acts 2:38: A Battle during a Nurse's War

by Evangelist Rhonda J. Morries, BSN, MSN, CST

So many times, I often look at blood spilled on the floors, on people, on my clothes, shoes and hands (yes, I double glove); I cannot help but wonder if we (the saints) have part of the blame for the spiritual death of Covid-19 patients before their physical death? Bless God, in the beauty of His brilliance, I looked up baptism and there is a law about emergency baptisms in life-threatening situations. This is my chance to speak up. It gives us all peace when patients say yes. We are in that blessed moment of time and it is awesome.

I contemplated discussing baptism with Covid-



19 patients for days as to whether I should speak or not. It is a tightrope and a fine line when it comes to religion in the healthcare profession. Perhaps because there are so many

different religious beliefs, we healthcare workers must be careful to not offend or pressure someone to accept our religion. That is against the law. Also, it is unethical and morally wrong. Besides, the chaplains or clergy are there and truly, this is their role. Thus, we must be careful.

The law states: "Health professionals, most commonly nurses or midwives, may be asked to baptize in these circumstances. Usually a member

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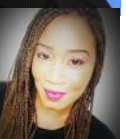
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The Single Perspective

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 Virtual Prayer Conference
March 26 and 27, 2021

A Pastor Covered in Prayer, Part 2

Continued from the October 2020 Newsletter

SP: How has holiness changed over the years?

District Elder Hamilton: I was just thinking about that the other day. And I was talking about it in my message Sunday, I was at the car wash the other day, and I don't necessarily think that holiness is the way you dress. But I think holiness speaks of our relationship with ourselves, our relationship with God and our relationship with other people. But I said that to say this: I looked over and I saw an older lady and a younger lady. But I automatically looked over and realized they probably were UPC (members of the United Pentecostal Church, a branch that grew out of the PAW) because they had the blue jean skirt on, and their hair had been cut very modestly...

SP: Yes, yes.

District Elder Hamilton: ...My point is when I looked at them, I'm like, although I know we've grown past that, yet there is something to be said, when someone can look at you and realize you're not like everyone else! Not that you're freaky-looking or you're homely-looking, but we see people, Christianity and holiness and *all that stuff* nowadays! When you look at some females, by the time they wear those leggings and show everything that could be shown and getting tattoos, and all kinds of hair colors *and all that stuff!* I'm not a preacher who says that's going to send someone to hell. But at the end of the day, I think when you have a relationship with God, you have a relationship with yourself.

I mean, Americans right



District Elder Brian T. Hamilton,
Pastor of Transformed Life
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now are in this big thing with freedom of speech. So we do have the freedom to say whatever we want to say, but just because you can say, it doesn't mean you need to say it when you have respect for yourself. Although I have freedom to speak, to say whatever I want to say, I'm not going to say certain things, just because I respect myself. I respect other people and I respect God. So the whole thing with holiness is I think, we've grown to the point of realizing that I've been around for 40-some years; but I also think that we went too far to where we don't know who's what!

SP: What should every single saint avoid?

District Elder Hamilton: Well, I think the first thing is whatever the Bible says that we should avoid, we should. And secondly, as we know ourselves, just because someone else doesn't have to avoid something doesn't mean you shouldn't have to avoid it. So you should know within yourself what your limitations and what boundaries are just no-no's for you.

You have to set

boundaries as single individuals. Are you carrying yourself or are you allowing conversations to transpire that are not healthy or that are going to put you in a compromised position? And secondly, knowing yourself to the point of knowing someone else can do things or get away with certain things—going back to managing your freedom, just because you're free to do so.

When we were growing up, if someone saw a guy spending the night with a girl, it was thought that's a sin; they're going to hell.

SP: Okay. Yet, I was in a situation once when I signed up as a roommate with a female from my church for a PAW convention, and when I got to the convention hotel room, I had one more female roommate and two more male roommates! Everybody was saved, attended the same church and nothing happened, but I was uncomfortable. Now, I book my own room.

District Elder Hamilton: I do not, and as a pastor, I will not advocate for single individuals spending a night together, but that doesn't mean they're sinning just because they're doing it, but just because you can do that type of thing, and it's not going to be a sin, is that something you should do? People would say, don't let your good be evil spoken of (Romans 14:16).

People seeing a male and a female in a car can speculate different things. So, I mean, if your car broke down or something like that transpires, you really didn't have a choice. I mean, are you going to go to hell? If you spend the night in the same room? You're a bad person because you spend the night? Absolutely not.

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A Pastor Covered in Prayer, Part 2

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SP: For what should every single saint be thankful?

District Elder Hamilton: People should look at singleness as a gift. You have an opportunity to really work the ministry. It's even Biblical! The Bible says that the married have to obligate themselves to the things that the married should be doing. Single individuals should be thankful that they're having an opportunity in their singleness to better and improve their lives daily! If they utilize it, whether it's financially, whether it's healthwise or whether it's careerwise, because you're not really having to answer to anyone else!

In the Bible, it says for the married to become one; so now you're trying to join two people to one agenda, one goal, or one lifestyle. And that can be very challenging as you are selflessly trying to do things for yourself yet call yourself married. So when you're single, you should be thankful that it is the opportunity for you to really maximize that time and that space to propel you to succeed or to excel without having to blame anybody but yourself!

SP: Are there any more statements that you would like to add?

District Elder Hamilton: What role does social media play in being single; or, the pitfalls and the positives? It's a great platform for ministry, such as stuff for the church and our radio station. But I also realized for me personally, by stuff that I see on sisters' social media pages who call themselves godly women, that based on what I see there, I probably would never talk to them! Some of them are revealing so much stuff! I hope I'm not sounding too dogmatic, but sisters don't realize that social

media could either hurt you or help you as it relates to if someone's checking you out.

SP: So sisters are revealing more than you feel is appropriate?

District Elder Hamilton: Yes. I mean, I think if you're on social media, you have to realize that a lot of times social media is only the highlights of an individual's life. What are you highlighting? So if you're highlighting the wrong things, such as your apparel and you're showing a bunch of cleavages or you're very sensual. If a person is looking for a godly woman, I mean, unless he's just looking for something like that, it's going to turn him off without his even having the opportunity to get to know you. If that's what he's looking for, then, he's going to think, well, you're showing all this stuff. So then, when he approaches you, if he's treating you like an ungodly woman, then why are you getting offended?

To purchase District Elder Hamilton's financial workbook titled Mastering Money from a Biblical Perspective, send \$15 to CashApp \$briantodddhamilton, and be sure to put your name and address in the For line, or mail \$15 check or money order to District Elder Brian Hamilton, Transformed Life Church, 421 Wood Street in Piqua, Ohio 45356.

Covid-19 and Acts 2:38

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of the ward team who is known to be a Christian will be asked to carry out the baptism. Staff who baptize in an emergency will often remember the event for the rest of their lives as a profoundly sensitive and intimate event for all those involved. Baptism is the ceremony by which a person becomes a member of the Christian faith. In Christian baptism, water is poured or sprinkled on the person, or they may be completely

immersed in water. This is accompanied by the words '(Name), I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen' ” (*Emergency Baptism by Health Professionals*, 2005, Campbell, A., & Campbell, D.)

Pause. Breathe. I know that the baptism in the name of Jesus Christ is my faith and what I have come to know is true from my own experiences. I always share with patients what my truth in baptism is and always offer the choice for a chaplain to baptize because time is of the essence. If they are Catholic, I will offer prayers. This nurse has learned to stay in her lane, although the role of an evangelist trumps the role of a nurse. However, there are rules and protocol to follow, especially in a hospital. Obedience to the law of the land is something we still must follow.

Some of my co-workers believe in Jesus Christ as I do. I did present this case to my superiors and to my surprise, they were on board and did not see a problem with that. There are many whom I work with that I have won to the gospel of Christ.

Since many Covid-19 patients are of people of color, I am usually the most sought after to perform baptism and prayer. I often pray that God will honor the prayer, knowing the lovingkindness and great mercy He gives to liberate and heal that person. Sometimes, that does not happen for we already know the plans God has for us. If we are wise, we should know that God has our best interests at heart. He knows the spirit of a man because we were created in His image to praise and worship Him. That is one reason why baptism is so vital and, in these cases, quickly performed.

Full submersion is what our faith calls for, but I believe God does makes exceptions. Most hospitals around the world are of the Catholic faith. Therefore, the emergency baptism allowed for healthcare workers to follow is to say Father, Son and Holy Spirit. I do respect patients' choice of religious faith. For we know that African Americans have different types of faith. I can only offer prayer, care, and compassion and go advocate for them to my superiors.