

Let's Give *Him* *the Praise!*



Testimony: Felice Streeter Alston- Great Is Your Mercy!

How do I begin to express the goodness of God. One thing that comes to mind is the song by Donnie McClurkin:

*"Great is your mercy towards me; your loving kindness towards me
Your tender mercy I see; day after day*

*Forever faithful towards me; always providing for me
Great is your mercy towards me; great is your grace"*

In January 2013, two (2) months after my mother's transition, I sat down and wrote my short term goals, (to be completed that year) and my long term goals (to be completed within 5 years). On the short term list was a mission trip and on the long term list was go to Africa in 2018. Why a mission trip? God has been so good to me that I felt I needed to spread the gospel by works and deeds so others might see He is real. From 2013 to 2017, that mission trip goal was never reached, so each year I carried it over to the next year. I also prayed that God would reveal to me where I should go. I realize now, I was not ready and that was why I had not received any direction from God. When God sends you on any mission there is more of Him and less of you. There was much work on myself that had to be done.

Between 2013 and 2016, I went through some things. As Christians, we all go through, but it was different this time, because I did not have my mother to lean on and receive guidance. Even at her weakest, just before her death, she had more strength than most. Like a good shepherd, she would never allow me to stray but so far. I loved, honored and respected her just as we are supposed to. Losing my mother forced me to draw even closer to God.

In 2015, I had to make a major decision and I made the wrong choice. It took me two (2) years with much prayer, suffering, humility and trusting God through every step to turn it around and He did. God surrounded me with Grace, Goodness and Mercy. Each Sunday morning, I would get validation during the sermon that the dream, thought or resurfaced memory was from God and He was instructing me each step of the way. I've said I trust God many times, but this was different; a much deeper level and He worked it out.

Now, back to the mission trip. *"Hear counsel, and receive instruction, That thou mayest be wise in thy latter end. There are many devices in a man's heart; But the counsel of Jehovah, that shall stand."* **Proverbs 19:20-21 ASV.** It's 2018 and I have received my instructions from the Lord. *"Put on therefore, as God's elect, holy and beloved, a heart of compassion, kindness, lowliness, meekness, longsuffering."* **Colossians 3:12** I will do my best to maintain honor to God as I represent Tel International, Springfield Baptist and fellow Christians as we spread the Gospel in Ghana Africa, my Motherland. To God be the Glory."



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Testimony: Margie Parker Gibson - *With a grateful heart!*

To God be the Glory! My heart is full as I prepare for this amazing journey to spread God's Word and love to the people in Ghana, West Africa. This is a responsibility that I do not take lightly. As I step out of my comfort zone and onto a land that I've only imagined seeing, I know that God knows the desires of our hearts and He continuously makes a way when none is in sight. I am so grateful to my Springfield Baptist Church family for the love and support you have shown our team, especially for the prayers that you are praying for us. Please continue to pray that our mission trip will make a difference in the lives of the people that God puts in our paths, both here and abroad. For it says in His Word, **Psalms 96:3** "Declare his glory among the nations, His marvelous deeds among all peoples."



Testimony: Denise Winters- *To God Be the Glory!*

"Since I was a young girl, I have always had the dream to one day visit the Motherland. I knew that I could bless others, just as God has blessed me. Being a part of a large family, my parents always taught me and my siblings the importance of being thankful for what we had, regardless of how "little" it seemed. Over the years, I never lost faith, I just wasn't sure when or how my childhood dream would come true. But God knew. Now as an adult, my prayers have been answered.

God planted a seed in my life 40+ years ago, giving me the gift of helping others. My God, an awesome God, knew that one day He would send me on a mission to bestow my gift. For this, I am so thankful and blessed that God favored me. Being afforded this opportunity to go with others from my church family has brought me great joy! I thank God for this once-in-a-lifetime chance to go on a mission trip to Ghana, West Africa. Even if I had ten thousand tongues, I couldn't thank God, my family and my friends enough."

"And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him." **Colossians 3:17**

