

FREEDOM MINISTRIES CHURCH
Let Freedom Ring

Give Thanks Always



Happy Thanksgiving

NOVEMBER 2015

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Service Times

10:30 a.m. Sunday School
12:00 p.m. Sunday Morning Worship
7:00 p.m. Tuesday Shavah Prayer
7:00 p.m. Thursday Bible Study

*You can visit our website:
Acalltofreedom.com and our Facebook*

Email: Freedomfmc@gmail.com or
directly to my email,
zjbirdsong@gmail.com

Write: Freedom Ministries Church
1348 Old Apopka Road
Apopka, Florida 32703

*Deadline to submit next articles:
Sunday, NOVEMBER 29th*



**Thursday Night
Bible Study**

***Boys to Men
Part 2***

***(See attached NOVEMBER
calendar)***

From Pastor Filmore

God is faithful and is worthy of our praises. So let us enter into His gate with Thanksgiving and into His courts with Praise. This is what God requires of us that know and appreciate the Love that He has bestowed upon us. This He did, even when we were in our trespasses and sin. He made the first move to redeem us, to buy us back from the hand of the enemy (Satan). We are so appreciative of our Fall Festival, led by Minister Melvin Birdsong, and the staff that willingly gave their support for the success of the function. The Fall Festival was for the benefit of our community where we were exposed to free Health Services, Mental Disorders & Cancer Information, blood pressure checks, legal advice, community safety information, bike helmet give-away, basketball contest, music, food and games. We had for our enlightenment, demonstrations from the Apopka Police Department and the Orange County Sheriff Office. Our hats are off to all that help to make this event a success. Minister Paul M. Brown is presenting a series of 'Boys To Men' that was birth out of the 2015 Men's Retreat that was held in Lake Wales. This is such a powerful series, Pastor Filmore ask if he would extend the series to get the most of what the series contained. This is opened to those that truly want to grow in relationships in your home, church, job or wherever you may interact. Thank God for our Shavah Prayer as God is really manifesting Himself in answered prayers. Thank God for allowing the Filmore and Girley family to experience a cruise to Cozumel, Mexico. A fun time was had by all. Freedom Ministries is hosting a Women's Retreat in Daytona Beach to relax, shop, and rekindle the bond between our women. We are looking forward to Minister Cedric Thomas, Sr. to debut his preaching on the 22 of November and Minister Angie Thomas debuting on the 13th of December. Come out in support of their debut. Remember, Daylight Saving Times ends on November 1, 2015. So set your clocks back one hour. Also let us cheer our youth on as Brother Tony Jenkins is sponsoring his first Youth Builders' Christmas Banquet. Whatever support we are asked to give, let us show our kids how much we love them and to Brother Tony Jenkins for his leadership. Remember, to God be the Glory. Saints of God, let us ask God what our role should be in the ministry so that we may volunteer for the kingdom of God. We have so much to thank God for in our individual lives and collectively. Let our lives reflect the love of God. Amen, Amen, and Amen.

Freddie Filmore, Sr., Pastor

FALL FESTIVAL 2015



Thank God for a fantastic Fall Festival. I want to thank all those that volunteered and gave their time to make the Fall Festival a success. Thank God for the Freedom Ministries family, local businesses, organizations and all the agencies that gave their time and donations. It is good to bring and share a gathering of helpful information and to have a day of fun with your family and friends, all while joining and meeting new people in the community. God bless you all.



Who AM I?

by Pastor Freddie Filmore

Proverb 3:5 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. ⁶In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. The answer to the question is, once I confess my sin, believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, I am saved from my sin and am **now a child of God**. What this means to me is that, in agreement with scriptures, I can and should forget all those things behind me. Philippians 3:12 **Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.** ¹³Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but *this one thing I do*, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, ¹⁴I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded: and if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you. ¹⁶Nevertheless, whereto we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us mind the same thing. Don't live in the past but to look for the things that God has prepared for me. There is yet growth for me as I pursue a life in Christ. As long as I am in this body, God has given His encouragement for me to grow in grace as His final exhortation in 2 Peter 3:14 **Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.** ¹⁵And account *that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written*

unto you; ¹⁶As also in all *his* epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as *they do* also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction. ¹⁷Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know *these things* before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own stedfastness. ¹⁸But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen. Remember, it is not how you feel, so don't let your emotions dictate who you are. You are a child of the king, walking in victory at all times. Give God praise for who you are, who He has made you to become. God promise to never leave or forsake us and He is not a God that can lie. So no matter how I feel, no matter what my circumstances are, I am a child of the king and have the right to citizenship in the Kingdom of God. God made choice of us as He stated in John 3:16 **For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.** Even we were the ones that sinned, yet God in His mercy, took the first step to reconcile us back to the Kingdom through the person of His dear Son, Jesus Christ. He made the first move to restore us back to the place where the first Adam was in the garden, to worship and serve the Creator God, the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Once you confess Jesus Christ as Saviour, don't let go, but hold for dear life. When this life is over, God has a place prepared for us. Don't stop until you get there. Suffer what



Who AM I? (Continued)

by Pastor Freddie Filmore

you must in this life, but with the Spirit of God on your side, though you may walk through the valley of the shadow of death, you are not to fear, because God is with you. His promise to you is to never leave or forsake you. Seek to please God at all times through obedience to His word. As He spoke of Joshua and Caleb, they had a different spirit when they spied out the land and when they went through the 40 years in the wilderness. Keep the spirit that God gave to you at conversion. Our security is in knowing that the Lord will lead us each day, but we must not become so attached to **our plans** that we resist **God's redirection**. Remember that God said to Abram to sacrifice his son, but was redirected, and sacrificed a ram in his place. We, as God's children, have not to

judge where God places us or how He will use us. God engineers everything; He is Omnipotent, Omnipresent, and Omniscient so that He will never miss anything that He intended to do. Look at how He puts it in (NIV) Jeremiah 29:11 **For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.** Everything that you go through is for God's purpose. People that you deal with may mean it for evil, **but God**. Don't fight it, embrace it to the extent that God can and will carry out His will for you as found in 1 Peter 5:10 **But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you.**

Chaplain Melvin L. Birdsong Recognition (Orange County Sheriff's Office)

On October 3, 2015 Melvin received a Certificate of Appreciation for recognition of performance with Delta Squad he oversees. His squad posted volunteering over 2,000 hours for the year 2015, and consistently demonstrate unwavering support and devotion to duty to serve as a volunteers.

Melvin also received the Silver President's Volunteer Service Award 2015 by the Corporation for National and Community Service in recognition and appreciation for commitment to strengthen our nation and community through volunteer service. This award was given with a letter from President Barak Obama.

Lastly, Melvin received a gold plated coin of Excellence in Law Enforcement for volunteering and serving giving his best, from Sheriff Jerry L. Demings. Melvin is always thanking God for what he is able to do for all people and that is to be a servant to help make things better for everyone.



FALL FESTIVAL 2015

More



Thank You

The Other 'F' Words Part II

Minister Olivian Peterson-Brown

H

ebrews 12:1-2 *“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, we must get rid of every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and run with endurance the race set out for us. Keeping our eyes **fixed** on Jesus, the pioneer (Author) and perfected (Finisher) of our faith. For the joy set out for Him He endured the cross, disregarding the shame, and has taken His seat at the right hand of the throne of God.”*

FOCUS

Over time, I have come to this realization: I am to save the drama for the stage and use the passion for God and the Work He has prepared for my life. I must focus on God and His instructions and the task at hand. I must NOT FOCUS on my overly emotional, pity party prone self. My best work is done when I focus – FIX – my eyes on Jesus.

Once upon a time, I had a tendency to focus on ‘what he did or didn’t do, what she should or shouldn’t do, what they ought or ought not do, etc., etc., etc.; things need to be here and not there, why this, why that, why not this, why not that.’ You get the picture. It got so bad at one point that all of my attention was basically so consumed with and focused on *what needed to be* that I couldn’t (or wouldn’t) focus on what God was saying to me. He never gave me permission to follow rabbit trails nor go wherever my emotions wanted to take me. It was always me and my stubborn will that battled His Word.

People of God, it isn’t about how you and I feel or what we think. It is always, always and forever about God and His purpose for our lives. In that sense, it is about us but only because we have to choose to live our lives His way regardless as to how loud our emotions may be screaming. Decisions can be far reaching and wide spread in their consequences and the fallout. Consequences? They can be pleasant or unpleasant. They can be immediate or take years to surface but they will come. The thing we have to be aware of is that if we obey God and do things His way, according to His Word, waiting for His instructions – the consequences, the results totally belong to Him. I think that can take the pressure and stress off of us.

Now, there is something else, another item to think about here. When I do it God’s way (or not), what drives me in one direction or another? Am I doing it for popularity? Am I doing it because someone else said I should? Am I following tradition? What is my motivation? What’s the incentive? Am I doing it out of a pure heart? Am I concerned about what others may think of me? Is it out of a genuine desire to obey Christ? Am I honestly focused on Jesus and relaxed to the point that all I want to do is please Him? Once I’m able to conduct an honest inventory of what propels, drives, and moves me forward, then I can be at peace with God and have that necessary “Nevertheless” attitude. Not haughty. Not high-minded. Not an ‘I don’t care’ attitude. But an attitude that says: I’ve done what I believe God would have me do and I’m willing to leave the consequences in His hands. What a novel idea! Leaving God’s business to God!

The Other 'F' Words Part II (Continued)

Minister Olivian Peterson-Brown

I recognize that there could be and realistically, probably will be some things that will happen that I will not like as a direct result of following Jesus Christ. Everything will not be 'Fun' or go my way. But ***I am committed to being committed*** to Jesus and what He's calling me to do because I trust Him. Family, Finances, Ministry, Job, Business, Relationships – absolutely everything.

I don't and won't always understand the 'why' of what's happening but when I do it His way, I can trust Him to remain in control and to assure the '*all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose*' Romans 8:28.

So, why waste my time, energy, talents, and gifting by focusing (fixing my eyes) on anything other than where God is leading and directing me? Is this an easy thing to do? Not usually because we're so used to handling our own stuff, leading our own parade, worrying (focusing) on all of the distractions and bits and pieces of the puzzle that we have no control over. And we definitely want to be in control.

That doesn't mean for me to be so heavenly minded that I'm of no earthly good. In fact, I would say it calls for just the opposite. If I focus on God and what He would have me do, I won't spend it spinning my wheels because I can be confident that He is with me. I can be confident that even when/if I blow it from time to time, God is not caught off guard and He isn't shocked and running around trying to come up with a myriad of back up plans for our lives. I will accomplish whatever God has for me because He is with me and I am following His directions.



My job is to stay in my lane. My lane is wherever God leads me. That doesn't always remain the same so it is important for me to focus on what God is saying to me *right now*. Pray for consistency in obedience. Pray for the success and wisdom of my siblings in Christ and for the salvation of the lost. Pray for our leaders. Pray. Pray. Pray. Prayer will help you and I to stay focused on the right things. Prayer will help us to prioritize and determine what really matters. Prayer will also break down barriers and soften hearts. Prayer will change things.

There's something I've noticed. After an emergency or a tragic event in this country, even those who have previously been strong proponents of taking prayer out of and keeping it separate from most public functions and institutions, go on national television and social media to solicit prayers.

Again, it is not for me to judge them or place blame on them for calling on 'emergency prayer'. It is my job/task/duty to pray ***before they ask*** and do it on a consistent basis regardless to anyone else's actions, behavior, or words. Focus. Fix my eyes on. Concentrate on Christ.

Prayer is a powerful tool that helps me to: Stay in my lane; Focus on God's call for my life; Not be judgmental where others are concerned; Have fewer regrets and make some great memories; Know that my life is not my own but is fully surrendered to God for whatever He wants to do and that the *results of that obedience are totally up to Him*.

Consistent prayer helps me to ***FOCUS*** – Another 'F' Word.

WHY JESUS CAME

by Pastor Freddie Filmore

John 1:29 The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world. Jesus came for the express purpose to take away the sin of the world. Notice the word "sin" which has the understanding that the sin being referred to is man's belief that he has the right to himself, to make his own decision about himself. Man got this sin from the Devil himself, when, as Lucifer, in Isaiah 14:12 **How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!** ¹³**For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: 14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.** When a man rejects God, he accepts Satan's offer. God came in the person of Jesus Christ, to save us from ourselves. Remember that man(you and I) was born in sin(Psalm 51:5) so we had no choice in the matter. Jesus Christ came to give us a choice, in this life and in the world to come. John 7:40 **Many of the people therefore, when they heard this saying, said, Of a truth this is the Prophet. ⁴¹Others said, This is the Christ. But some said, Shall Christ come out of Galilee? ⁴²Hath not the scripture said, That Christ cometh of the seed of David, and out of the town of Bethlehem, where David was? ⁴³So there was a division among the people because of him. ⁴⁴And some of them would have taken him; but no man laid hands on him. ⁴⁵Then came the officers to the chief priests and Pharisees; and they said unto them, Why have ye not brought him? ⁴⁶The officers answered, Never man spake like this man.** People are yet divided concerning who Jesus is and what He came to do. If you will to believe, all things are possible to him that believeth. Look at 1 John 2:1 **My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: ²And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for *the sins of the whole world.* ³And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. ⁴He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. ⁵But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him. ⁶He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.** Understand what the scripture is saying and continue to say; that if we know and abide in Him, the word of God is being perfected in us. God is requiring us to walk in the truth that we know. As we walk, His word is being perfected in us, even as we walk. Jesus is our advocate right now but at the end of the day, when our lives are over, He will be our judge. The only time you and I have is "right now". Let us take advantage of why Jesus came and live the life that He is calling for us to live. He did not create us to leave us to defend for ourselves. He is a very present help in the time of trouble, and that time is always. He promised never to leave or forsake us. He is the God of His Word. Jesus came to deliver us from ourselves and present us faultless before the presence of His coming. He is coming so set your house in order, so that we may live and not die.

NOVEMBER 2015

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8 12 00 PM Pastor Filmore 7.00 PM NES Women's Retreat	9	10 7pm Shavah Prayer	11 7pm Youth Ministry Veteran's Day	12 7pm Bible Study	13 6pm Youth Movie Night	14																																																																																																				
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