

NEW DIRECTION

Formerly *New Beginnings*

April 2009

What's Happening?

May 2

Grassroots Productions & Funding cordially invites you to the Red Carpet premier of the feature film, "4 Minutes: You Can't Put a Time Limit on Love."

The reception begins at 6:30 p.m. at the Garden Theatre (located at 160 W. Plant St., Winter Garden, 34787). Showtime is at 7:30 p.m.

RSVP by Friday, May 1. Contact Gwen Bennett at (407) 856-3933.

Passage to Life:

*"I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills,
from whence cometh my help.*

*My help cometh from the LORD,
which made heaven and earth.*

*He will not suffer thy foot to be
moved: he that keepeth thee
will not slumber.*

*Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall
neither slumber nor sleep.*

*The LORD is thy keeper: the Lord is
thy shade upon thy right hand.*

*The sun shall not smite thee by day,
nor the moon by night.*

*The LORD shall preserve thee from all
evil: he shall preserve thy soul.*

*The LORD shall preserve thy going out
and thy coming in from this time
forth, and even for evermore."*

Psalm 121:1-8 (KJV)

On April 25, my family and I attended the "All About Me" concert featuring five local elementary schools: Eagles Nest; Richmond Heights; Eccleston; Ivey Lane; and Tangelo Park (my alma mater), as well as the EBON Youth of OCPs. The theme for 2009, "Shine like the star you are...."

We arrived in time to see the processional of Pre-K to fifth graders (plus one eighth grader) marching into the Jones High School auditorium with lights in hand as they sang, "This Little Light of Mine" (*I'm gonna let it shine...*). They were all nicely dressed in black & white attire (with pink cummerbunds for the girls and blue cummerbunds for the boys).

The 140 children as young as age 4 took center stage, and sang and danced their hearts out to more than 20 songs, including:

- "Golden Rule"
- "Put Your Hand in My Hand"
- "Look to the Future"
- "I Can! You Can! We Can!"
- "Big Dreams"
- "Let's Talk It Through"
- "Knowledge Is Power"
- "The Future Begins with Us"

With proud parents, grandparents, and other family members and friends in attendance, the applause and standing ovations quickly filled the auditorium as the children captured their "15 minutes of fame" (or 120 minutes, in this case) with solo performances throughout the night.

During intermission, a group called "Ladies of Distinction" encouraged us with Indie Arie's song, "There's Hope" (*...it doesn't cost a thing to smile; you don't have to pay to laugh; you better thank God for that!...*). Miriam's Instrument of EBON Temple soared high with a dance to "I Believe I Can Fly."

The youth taught us many guiding principles that night: "do unto others as you would have them do unto you; education is the key; never stop learning; and we're not that different at all!"

Music director Frinzetta Boman has been working with the children's choir for several years. "God gave me this gift so I can't stop," says Boman, a Tangelo Park kindergarten teacher. Her desire is to see this predominantly African American choir—which has sung for Gov. Jeb Bush—to one day perform for President Barack Obama.

If there's anything we've learned from listening to these kids, it's that we must DREAM BIG. Once you believe in yourself, you can attain the 'impossible.'

Be blessed,
Suzette Farquharson-Morgan

Editor & Publisher

Great Expectations for 2009

by Suzette Farquharson-Morgan

As I type these words of encouragement, I am listening to a song by James Fortune that says "there ain't nothing He can't do." Truly, there isn't anything too hard for God. When you trust...when you believe...when you have faith...when you hearken to His voice, the Bible says in Deuteronomy 28:1 *"that the LORD thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth...."*

This year, I am expecting great things for my life, my family, my friends and my ministry. In 2002, after fasting and praying for God to reveal my purpose in life, I stepped out on faith to write, *Living Testimonies*. I didn't know that I would have my own publishing company two years later. However, by humbling myself and obeying His Word, the Lord has shown me that all things are possible.

Yet, it's hard to expect anything from God if you're not doing what He has asked you to do. He said to seek Him first; to bring your tithes into the storehouse; to trust in Him and delight in His ways. Then He will supply all your needs; He will pour you out blessings that you won't have room enough to receive; He will give you the desires of your heart! Because I've tried Him for myself (& I'm walking by faith while standing on His promises), I can tell you that the Lord hasn't failed me yet.

In 2007, six months after releasing a second book, *Honey for the Soul™: This Is the Season* by Orlando native Anita B. Williams, I lost my home of nine years. I could not afford to buy my house back from the investor I sold it to prior that year, so I had no choice but to walk away. Although that was difficult, at first, God later showed me that He had something bigger and better in store for me and my family. Therefore, *"My soul, wait thou only upon God; for my expectation is from Him"* (Psalm 62:5).

He said in Isaiah 45:2-3, *"I will go before thee, and make the crooked places straight: I will break in pieces the gates of brass, and cut in sunder the bars of iron. And I will give thee the treasures of darkness, and hidden riches of secret places, that thou mayest know that I, the Lord, which call thee by thy name, am the God of Israel."*

Sometimes, letting go of the 'old' to embrace the 'new' isn't easy, but again I say, "there ain't nothing" too hard for God. You must trust and believe that whatever He promises will come to pass. So go ahead, expect great things for 2009. I declare like Troy Sneed (and Youth for Christ) that "The Struggle Is Over!" Whatsoever you put your hands to will prosper. Just remember: God is good; God is able; and God is always on time!

Distributed February 16, 2009, through the Motivational Monday Message™ from Pam Perry's Ministry Marketing Solutions (ministrymarketingsolutions.com)

A Change Is Coming by Anita B. Williams

A Change Is Coming
Right now you feel
As if God has forgotten you
Because nothing around you is changing

The tears that fall from your eyes
In the middle of the night
Are still tears of pain
It's not the joy
That you long to feel and
Need so much at this time

You don't want a bandage
Because that will only last for a moment
Before you need another

You want a healing
You want a deliverance
You want the winds to bring a change
That will bless you
Like never before in your life

A Change Is Coming
A new journey

A Change Is Coming
One that will give you hope
In your darkest moment
One that will allow you
To soar a little higher
Like the eagle

A Change Is Coming
Because God is moving
Heaven and earth for you

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