



"My daughter had a stroke."

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**Gathering of Faith and Miracles** 



**Every Sunday at 10 AM** 

# JIVERSAL EWS



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# God hasn't changed He continues

Working

Miracles



God continues to perform wonders in the lives of those who believe — and if you believe, the next miracle could be yours! Making God your ally to overcome this difficulty is the only guaranteed solution to your problem.

"The doctors also said that the chance of death was 85%."
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Bishop Page 2
Edir Macedo
From faith
to faith





#### **OPINIONS**

#### IN THIS EDITION

#### God hasn't changed

Contrary to what many people think, the time of miracles isn't over. God is still performing wonders today in the lives of those who believe and place their trust in Him. All around the world, thousands of testimonies prove that God's power—and His willingness to heal, deliver, and transform—remains the same

You might be wondering: What's the secret to seeing God's power at work in your life? The answer is actually pretty simple—it's faith. Real, active faith. If you're willing to believe and take a step based on that belief, the next miracle could be yours.

Faith is a powerful force. When we look at the men and women in the Bible who used their faith, we're amazed by the results. But what made their faith so effective? Was it the size of their faith? Not at all. What mattered was that they had faith and acted on it. Jesus said, "If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you." (Matthew 17:20)

The mustard seed is one of the smallest seeds in the world, showing us that it's not the size of your faith that matters, but your willingness to believe, to hold on, and to act.

The key to holding onto your faith is to build your life on the Word of God. That's what the heroes of faith in the Bible did. Their courage and trust in God brought results—and the same will happen for you when you step out in faith. Making God your partner in life is the one sure way to overcome the challenges you face. He's the same today as He was back then, and He wants to bless and transform your life too.

Join us this Sunday at a Universal Church near you for our Gathering of Faith and Miracles, with services at 7 a.m., 3 p.m., and 6 p.m., and especially at 10 a.m. You could be the next testimony.

#### BEATING DEPRESSION

Depression is more than just feeling sad—it's a deep, overwhelming sorrow that weighs down the soul. It brings feelings of hopelessness, drains motivation, and makes even the simplest tasks feel impossible. In severe cases, it can even rob people of their will to live. Depression isn't just a state of mind—it's a sickness of the soul. But who can heal the soul? Only the Savior, the Lord Jesus, has the power to restore a troubled heart.

Every Sunday, The Universal Church opens its doors to those who are battling depression. If you need support, we invite you to visit a nearby branch. Join a Chain of Prayer—a seven-week commitment where you'll receive spiritual strength through powerful prayers, practical guidance, and one-on-one counseling.

You are not alone in this battle. Thousands around the world have found hope and transformation through faith, proving that a Chain of Prayer can truly make a difference. You can be the next success story.





#### **Bishop Edir Macedo**

# **S**

#### From faith to faith

iving by faith means depending completely on God's Spirit.

It means always looking ahead, not backward.

It means letting go of painful memories and moving forward with your life.

Faith grabs hold of the truth that God is the same yesterday, today, and forever—that what He did for the faithful in the past, He's ready to do again for those who trust Him now.

Living by faith means tuning out the noise of the world—the voices of doubt, negativity, and human reasoning. It means ignoring the advice of those who don't walk with God or know what it means to live by real faith.

This is what it means to live by faith: a life fully surrendered and guided by God's Spirit—day by day, from faith to faith.

It's choosing to reject people's opinions and instead feeding your soul with what God says.



It means questioning your doubts, standing up to your fears, and turning your back on the misleading emotions of your heart.

Living by faith means choosing—once and for all—to stand with God.

It's deciding to follow His direction, just like the Scripture says:

"... but one thing I do: forgetting what is behind and reaching forward to what is ahead." — Philippians 3:13



Both Junior and Geiza went through a series of failed relationships. No matter how hard they tried, happiness in love always seemed out of reach. Frustration and disappointment followed them everywhere. But through their faith in God, they were able to heal from the pain of the past, discover their self-worth, and finally find true happiness. Here's how their story unfolded:

Junior's story

"Everyone I tried to get close to just left me more frustrated. My love life was a mess. Eventually, I started to believe that maybe I was better off single. But over time, I swung in the opposite direction. I started going out every night of the week and would easily spend over \$1,000 just trying to enjoy myself. I hit every kind of party, festival, and event you could think of—chasing the idea of love wherever I could.

But even after all that, nothing changed. One night, while I was out at an event surrounded by people, I suddenly realized how alone I felt. Even in the middle of a crowd, I didn't have anyone I could really trust. That night, for the first time, I faced the deep

#### Frustrated in love

emptiness inside me—one that no person or party could fill.

When I first came to the Universal Church, my life was completely broken. I attended my first service on a Thursday—the Love Therapy service—and right away, God spoke to me. I kept coming back, committed to the chain of prayer for my love life. As I kept attending, I started working on myself. I began to heal from the pain of the past and truly got to know God. Through Him, I found the missing piece. The emptiness disappeared, and I finally found real joy. I became a better man. I learned to value myself.

That's when I met the woman who would become my wife. She was also attending Love Therapy. There was something different about her that caught my attention "

Geiza's story

"I couldn't see a future in any of my past relationships. I was never happy—always disappointed. I had been cheated on and left feeling used. I looked for happiness in people and in things. From Friday to Sunday, I was out partying and drinking, trying to fill a void inside. But nothing worked. Deep down, I didn't see my own value. I felt worthless, and because of that, I accepted being mistreated and cheated on. I honestly believed all men were

the same.

Then someone invited me to the Universal Church, and I started attending the Love Therapy services. For four years, I went faithfully and applied everything I learned. During that time, I focused on rebuilding myself—not on getting into another relationship. With God's help, I was finally able to heal from all the pain and emotional baggage I'd been carrying. I let go of the negativity, the feelings of worthlessness, and started taking care of myself—mind, body, and spirit. God filled that empty space inside me and taught me to value myself.

Later, I met Junior—and everything just clicked. For both of us, it felt like an answered prayer. We spent a month and a half just talking and getting to know each other before we entered a serious relationship. Our love continued to grow, and after 11 months, we got married on February 15, 2020.

Since then, our marriage has been a blessing—something that would never have been possible without God."

Junior & Geiza Real people. Real change. Real love.



# **Experience the Power of God this** Sunday



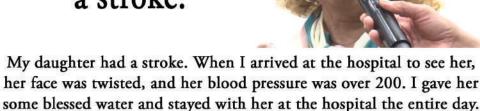
"Tissue was growing in my uterus."

I went to the doctor for a routine check-up—something our pastors always encourage us to do. After the exam, the results came back abnormal. The doctors told me they had found extra tissue growing in my uterus. I went to two different clinics and did two separate exams, and both showed the same thing. They were testing me for cancer.

Clinical Diagnosis Value PREDOMINANTLY BLOOD AND DISRUPTED FRAGMENTS OF WEAKLY PROLIFERATIVE TO INACTIVE ENDOMETRIAL GLANDS. NEGATIVE FOR CYTOLOGIC ATYPIA AND MALIGNANCY. A COMMENT - QUEST

But here's the amazing part: after the biopsy, everything came back negative—completely clear! During that time, I used the blessed water. I drank it and, by faith, I also applied some over the area of my uterus, believing in my healing. I thank God for this miracle! —Tara

#### "My daughter had a stroke."



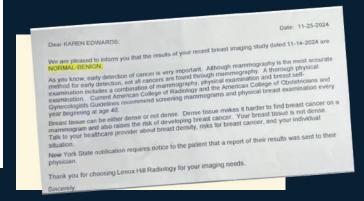
I noticed that every time the nurses came to check her, her blood pressure was going down. I said to myself, That's a good sign. Then she started to smile, and in that moment, I knew she was going to be okay-so I went home.

The next day, I called her, and she told me she was doing fine. She was admitted to the hospital on a Tuesday, and by that Friday, she was released. —Ms. Patricia



"I no longer have the lump in my breast."

I found a lump in my breast, and it absolutely terrified me—especially because three of my mom's sisters had passed away from cancer. I went to the doctor, who referred me for a mammogram. During that time, I kept drinking blessed water and prayed, "God, You've got to help me," because I truly feared I was going to die. A few days later, the doctor called and asked me to come in. When I got to his office, he told me everything looked normal.



At first, I couldn't believe it. But then I received the official report in the mail—it confirmed there was no lump and no sign of cancer. -Ms. Karen





Receive the healing waters this Sundayat your nearest Universal Church



#### Parakeet Faith

o you know someone who owns a parakeet? Or maybe you've had one yourself? If so, you know they're great at mimicking sounds.

Say "hello," and they'll say it back. Say anything else, and they'll repeat it too. But here's the thing—they're not responding with understand-

ing or intent. They're just repea what they've heard.

Sadly, many Christians live their spiritual lives the same way.

They know how to quote scripture. They repeat verses and say the right words. But for them, it's just that words. Like the parakeet, they're not applying it. There's no expectation. No action. No faith.

Let's be honest—how many times have you heard someone say,

'The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want" yet they live a life full of need and lack?

Or they quote, "Let the weak say, 'I am strong,"—but they remain weak in every area of their life.

Or say, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me,"-

while struggling to make progress, stuck in the same problems

year after year?

This isn't to condemn anyone. This is a wake-up call.

The Word of God is not just for quoting—it's for believing and living. We can't approach it religiously, like a script to memorize. We must mix it with faith and action!

Let's take Gideon, for example. When the angel of the Lord ap-

1 TIMOTHY

1 TIMOTHY



pushed back:

'If the Lord is with us, then why has all this happened? Where are all the miracles our ancestors told us about?" (Judges 6:13)

That was revolted faith.

Starting to-

day, when you

quote a Bible

verse, believe

and fight for it

to be materi-

alized in your

life.

Gideon was tired of living in the cave—seven years of hiding, of fear, of shame. He wanted to see the

promises, not just hear about them. Ánd that raw honesty, that refusal to settle, is what activated God's power in his life.

God did take him out of that cave. And God can take you out of

So, starting today, don't just repeat Bible verses—believe

2 TIMOTH

Fight for them to come true in your life. There are over 8,000 promises in the Word of God, and they weren't written just to sound poetic. They were written for you.

Use your faith—not just your memory. The Bible isn't just to be

ating	peared and called him a "valiant warrior," Gideon didn't just accept it with a smile and a nod. No—he

quoted; it's to be lived. Come out of the cave. It's your time now. May the God of the Bible bless MAY 2025 BIBLE READING 1 TIMOTHY 1 TIMOTHY

29 2 TIMOTHY

2 TIMOTHY

#### "Not even God can heal her"

That's what the doctors told Priscila's family as they prepared to turn off the machines keeping her alive.



That's what the doctors told Priscila's family as they prepared to turn off the machines keeping her alive.

What started as an ordinary night's sleep turned into a nightmare for 25-year-old Priscila.

"When I woke up, I

realized I couldn't feel my arms or legs. Everything stopped working," she

She was rushed to the emergency room, where doctors ran a series of tests. The diagnosis was alarming: Guillain-Barré Syndrome, a rare autoimmune disorder in which the body's immune system attacks the nerves. Her nervous system was shutting down—and so was her ability to breathe.

Soon, Priscila was placed on a ventilator.

"I couldn't breathe on my own. The doctor said not even God could get me out of there alive. But I chose to ignore him. I put all my trust in God," she says.

The most devastating moment came when the medical team gathered her family and said they needed to disconnect the ventilator. It had been 14 days—the maximum time it could be used. They explained she would need a tracheostomy, a high-risk procedure to help her breathe through her throat.

"Seeing my whole family crying broke me," Priscila remembers. Though she was awake, her body was paralyzed. She could only move her eyes.



But even then, she didn't give up.

She believed God had a purpose for her life. Her husband became her pillar of strength. He brought her blessed water from The Universal Church and drank it on her behalf, praying for her healing with faith and determination.

Then the impossible happened.

Just as the doctors were preparing to turn off the machine, Priscila suddenly started breathing on her own.

"That's when God did the impossible," she says.

To everyone's shock, not only did she survive—she walked out of the hospital with no side effects.

"No one believed it," she says. "Even the nurses cried when they saw me recover."

But her battle didn't end there. Priscila had to relearn how to walk and eat. One of the hardest emotional blows came when her own daughter didn't recognize her due to the 30 kilos she had lost.

Despite it all, Priscila made a full recovery.

Today, she considers herself a living testimony to the power of faith.

"I'm proof that miracles happen—even in the darkest moments," she says. "God had the final word."

#### WHAT'S HAPPENING AT UNIVERSAL

#### What's happening at the Universal Church

### "On the verge of suicide, I found a way out where I least expected it."



Angela struggled with depression, came close to ending her life-and even considered taking her children with her. But one unexpected invitation led to a complete turnaround.

"We lived in a very small town surrounded by hardship. Life felt hopeless, and I couldn't imagine a good future for my family. On top of that, my marriage was falling apart. Nothing was going right. I had no direction, no peace, and no prospects. I cried constantly and fell deep into depression.

There were many times when I thought about ending my life. I remember once, I was so overwhelmed that I put a gun to my head, ready to pull the trigger—but I couldn't go through with it. Other times, even darker thoughts crossed my mind: I thought about taking my children's lives before taking my own. I didn't want to leave them behind to suffer. But every time, a voice would whisper in my mind, urging me not to do it.

Everything started to change when I saw a door open where I least expected it—through a TV program from the Universal Church. They were showing

a testimony, and I couldn't believe what I was hearing. It was like someone was telling my story-depression, hopelessness, a broken life—but in the end, she overcame it all. She found joy, peace, and purpose. At that moment, I thought to myself, I need to find this place. If it worked for her, maybe it can work for me

At the time, there was no Universal Church in my town. But that didn't stop me. I searched for the closest location and found one in a nearby city. That's where my journey with God began. Even though I didn't understand much yet, I walked through those doors full of faith—and that's all it took. Everything started to change.

First, I was healed from the inside out. I was delivered from insomnia, depression, and the desire to end my life. I met the Lord Jesus and finally found real peace. Then, my marriage was restored. The man I once thought I'd lose is now serving God by my side.

Today, I can say with certainty: God truly transformed everything. My husband and I moved to the United States with our children, and here, God has continued to bless us. We own a business, bought our home, and every step we take, we see God's hand over our lives.

Now, I'm a strong and joyful woman. Even when challenges come, I stand firm—because my strength comes from the Holy Spirit. Í finally have the life I once thought was impossible: a home, a family, and a peace that only God can — Angela, Florida

### "Even though I knew the right path, I didn't have the strength to go back."



Abel Mendez went through devastating losses and ended up living on the streets—even though he knew where to turn. Here's how he found the strength to return and rebuild his life.

"I first found out about the Universal Church through a television program. I started attending and stayed in the church for 15 years. During that time, my life changed completely. I was set free from addiction, started a taxi company, and was financially blessed. I was faithful to God and truly living a new

But somewhere along the way, I let evil thoughts in. I started thinking I was giving too much to the church, and little by little, I pulled away from God.

Not long after, my wife got sick and was diagnosed with cancer. By that time, I had already distanced myself from my faith. And when she passed away, I completely abandoned it. My daughter stayed in the church, but I walked away. I went back to the same addictions I had been freed from-and eventually lost everything I had worked so hard to build. I ended up homeless, completely alone, with no contact with

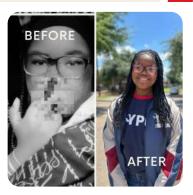
Even though I knew the truth—even though I knew the right path—I didn't have the strength to go back. I spent six years away from God, and they were the worst years of my life.

Life on the streets was brutal. One winter night, the cold nearly killed me. I was taken to the hospital in such bad shape that they almost pronounced me dead. But my daughter-who had no idea where I was or what I was going through—was still praying for me. She never gave up. I believe it was her prayers that moved God to have mercy on me. That night, I felt God embrace me. He gave me a second chance at life.

After that, I knew I had to do something. I reached out for help and came back to church. It wasn't easy starting over, but the pastors helped me every step of the way. Through faith, I overcame my addictions again and slowly got back on my feet—spiritually, emotionally, and financially.

I reconnected with my family. And God even blessed my love life—I met my current wife, and we got married. Today, we're walking in faith together, no matter the challenges. Coming back to God was the best decision I ever made. My life is complete.

– Abel Mendez



IVIANIAN

Before coming to the Universal Church, I was rebellious and disobedient. I was always getting into trouble at school-fighting, stealing, and vaping were part of my daily routine. I was constantly influenced by the wrong crowd, and my life was heading in the wrong direction fast. But everything started to change when a youth from YPG invited me to church. That invitation marked the beginning of a new journey for me. Through the services, prayers, and support I received, I was set free from vaping, bad habits, and the toxic influences around me. I'm not the same person anymore. I'm no longer rebellious, and today, I have the Holy Spirit living inside of me. My life has been completely transformed. Thank

God for giving me a second chance!







The recent SAY (Save a Youth) event in Texas was more than just a gathering—it was a movement of hope. Designed to raise awareness and offer real support to youth facing inner struggles, the event brought together teens and young adults in a powerful and uplifting environment. With a vibrant mix of food, games, and live performances, SAY created a fun, safe space where young people could relax, connect, and feel genuinely seen and valued. As the evening came to a close, attendees received prayer, one-on-one counseling, and a message of faith meant to strengthen and encourage them on their personal journey. If you or someone you know is going through a tough time and could use support, we're here for you. Reach out today to find a Universal Church branch near you—and



SAVE A YOUTH













REACH OUT TO US: 1-888-332-4141

**COVER STORY** 

God hasn't changed. He still performs miracles today.

From our point of view, some problems seem unsolvable. Some outcomes feel unthinkable. Some situations look like they'll never change. But faith—real faith—challenges the impossible and pushes us to question human logic. After all, who can explain a miracle?

Faith dares to believe in miracles, even though it doesn't always explain them. You either believe or you don't—and when you don't, doubts creep in. Is there really a way out of a life trapped in addiction, for example? Could someone society looks down on suddenly be honored? Can problems everyone accepts as "normal" actually turn around?

For skeptics, any story that goes against what's expected is often dismissed as coincidence or nonsense. But from a spiritual perspective, refusing to believe in the miraculous can seem narrow-minded. As human beings, we may have intelligence and logic, but we're still limited. Even the most scientific explanations—quantum or otherwise—can fall short.

Just picture some of the incredible events recorded in the Bible. The prophet Ezekiel once stood in a valley full of dry bones—and watched them come together, bone by bone, to form a vast army (Ezekiel 37). Who could imagine the sun stopping in the sky for nearly a full day at Joshua's command? (Joshua 10). Or the widow in Zarephath, who watched her empty jars fill with flour and oil—just when she had nothing left (1 Kings 17)? Or the Red Sea parting so an entire nation could walk through on dry ground (Exodus 14)?

These aren't just stories—they show that miracles go beyond human understanding. They remind us that God's power has no limits. His promises are many, and they rain down on all people. But here's the truth: miracles only happen for those who believe.

Because without belief, there is no miracle.

It's not just up to God, and it's not just up to you—it's a partnership between you and God. You connect with Him through the faith He's already placed inside you. But that faith often gets buried under doubt, fear, worry, pain, people's opinions, or empty ideas. And when your faith feels weak, how can you overcome what you're facing? How can you break free from depression, anxiety, or suffering?

The truth is, you can't—unless you hold on to even a small spark of faith. Even if your faith feels crushed, you can breathe life into it. And when you do, you'll start to see the impossible happen. Miracles are still possible—for you and your loved ones.

Believe that the impossible can become reality. Read the stories of faith that follow, and open your heart to receive your own miracle today. Give God a chance to work in your life.

Turn to the back page to find a Universal Church near you. Your miracle could be closer than you think.



#### IS THE TIME FOR MIRACLES OVER?

# "The doctors said there was an 85% chance I wouldn't survive."

Rosemeri Pompeu first noticed that her menstrual flow had increased—and over time, it got worse. "I went to the doctor, and at first they suspected it might be a complication from COVID-19," she recalls. "But even with medication, the bleeding didn't stop or go back to normal."

As things got more serious, she started experiencing heavy hemorrhaging. Within just two months, she needed 12 blood transfusions. But even that wasn't enough—her body was rejecting the transfused

blood. "I fainted multiple times, had terrible headaches, and often felt humiliated because I'd bleed through my clothes when I went to church or the supermarket," she says.

After several tests and consultations, she finally saw a specialist who confirmed the diagnosis: cervical cancer.

"When they saw my condition, the doctors gave me just 15 days to live and said there was little hope

for a cure. They believed it was a rare and aggressive form of cancer that had already spread and could reach other organs quickly," she explains.

Hearing this was devastating—especially because she had a six-year-old son. "Things kept getting worse. The blood loss led to anemia, and I was on the verge of developing leukemia. The doctors told me my chances of dying were 85%, and that percentage was going up every day."

Her case was considered so critical that surgery was ruled out. The doctors told her death was inevitable and chemotherapy was the only option



left. "I went through eight months of chemo. It was an incredibly hard time—not just because of the cancer, but because the side effects of treatment were getting worse. It affected my family and put a huge strain on our finances," she remembers.

But through it all, Rosemeri held onto her faith. She already attended the Universal Church and believed that even if doctors couldn't heal her, the

"Doctor of doctors" could.

"I never stopped believing. I had faith that Jesus would heal me, just like He healed the woman who had been bleeding for years in the Bible. I took part in healing campaigns and prayer chains."

Despite all the talk of death and hopelessness, Rosemeri made a decision:

she would trust God completely. Through a faith campaign at the Altar, she committed everything to Him. And then, in February 2021, something incredible happened—new tests confirmed she was completely healed.

"The doctors were shocked," she says. "When I walked into the office, my doctor couldn't believe it was me. He got emotional and said, 'You made me believe in God again."

Today, three years later, Rosemeri's follow-up tests continue to confirm the miracle. She's healthy, full of energy, and living a normal life.



complications. I'm alive, I'm healthy, and I'm deeply thankful for God's mercy. I'll talk

"I haven't had any side effects or about Him every single day for the rest of my life," she says.



#### "He drank uncontrollably, and we fought all the time."

ristiane was once walking with God, but over time, she found herself ✓ drawn to the world. At first, it felt exciting—she felt happy, free, and fulfilled. It was during that time, about twenty years ago, that she met Anelio. They quickly started dating, moved in together, and eventually got married in a civil ceremony.

But from the beginning, their relationship was full of conflict. "He drank uncontrollably, and we fought all the time," Cristiane says. "It got to the point where I would boil water to throw at him, lock him inside the house so he couldn't go out drinking with his friends—or lock him out entirely. Then the physical fights started."

Cristiane's family never stopped inviting her back to the Universal Church, though at first she would only go reluctantly. But as her marriage grew more toxic and unbearable, she finally decided to return to church. At first, she went with the wrong motivation she wanted to fix her marriage and get her husband to change.

Then one day, during a church meeting, the pastor asked a question that hit her hard: "How can someone who's drowning save another person who's also drowning?"

"That really got to me," Cristiane recalls. "I how can I help my husband?' That's when I realized I needed to start working on myself first."

She was baptized in water, started praying again, read her Bible regularly, and began seeking the Holy Spirit. She still longed to see Anelio change, but her main focus became her own transformation. With God's helpthe Author of Love—she committed to acting

with wisdom. Her husband still refused to go to church, so Cristiane found subtle ways to share her faith. She would mention Bible verses that caught his attention or sparked conversation.

And slowly, something changed.

"He started getting interested in the Word of God," she says. "Sometimes, he would call me from work and say, 'I'm reading this, but I don't understand it.' I'd explain it to him. Eventually, he began to tithe. He stopped buying alcohol. That's when I knew God was working."

Then one Sunday morning, out of the blue, Anelio said, "Can you iron a shirt for me? I want to go to church with you." It was the first time he went—and soon after, he gave up drinking completely, got baptized in water, and received the Holy Spirit.

Their marriage changed from the inside out. If Cristiane had stayed focused on fixing her husband instead of healing herself, the conflicts would have continued. But when Anelio saw her transformation—how she responded differently, with peace and wisdom—he wanted that same change for himself.

"Today, thank God, we both serve the Lord as thought, 'It's true. I'm not okay myself, so volunteers," she says. "I used to say this would happen—back when he would just pick me up after church and laugh when I told him. But I believed it. And in Jesus' name, I know God will continue to honor our faith."

#### **MAKE A**



A Chain of Prayer is when you attend a prayer meeting for a certain number of weeks without interruption in order to see a breakthrough in your life. Whether it is healing, a financial breakthrough or spiritual deliverance that you need, a Chain of Prayer helps you develop the faith and determination to overcome.

Monday - Strong Nation 7am, 10am, 4pm & 7pm



Learn the secrets to overcome financially. Receive direction to grow and become a successful person.



Tuesday - Prayer for healing 7am, 10am, 4pm & 7pm

Receive prayers for your physical, mental and spiritual well-being.

Wednesday - Night of Salvation 7am, 10am, 4pm & 7pm



A meeting will be held for those who want to invest in a genuine relationship with God.



Thursday - Family & Love Therapy 7am, 10am, 4pm & 7pm

The goal of the family meeting is to bring families together. No family is perfect, but they can be free from any hate, separation and other underlying issues.

Friday - Deliverance 7am, 10am, 4pm & 7pm



There is a root to every problem. No issue can be dealt with permanently without removing its root. Every Friday, strong prayers is provided for anyone who is facing a problem that is influenced by negativity.



Saturday - Impossible Cases 8am & 12pm

Have you ever looked at a problem or situation and thought, 'this is impossible, there is no solution to this?' If you want to see the 'impossible become possible', join us every Saturday.

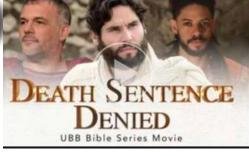
Sunday - Gathering of Faith & Miracles 7am, 10am, 3pm & 6pm



These meetings aim to help people connect with God, to empower people and teach them how to use their faith to achieve what they want in their lives.

#### **UNIVERSAL BEYOND BARS**







Every day the UBB has a new episode for you.

There is something for everyone! Do you need guidance about faith, family, sexual orientation, curses, dealing with loss, addictions etc.?

'¿Hablas español? En la aplicación de Pando puedes encontrar segmentos de la UBB ¡también en español!"

### Fly or flies on the wall?

Why are flies so annoying? The moment we see one, our first instinct is to swat it. As soon as we hear that familiar buzz, it feels like our peace disappears, right? But what exactly is it about flies that irritates us so much?

Let's break it down. First, there's that nonstop buzzing. Then there's the fact that they carry diseases, land on our food, and pose health risks. If you don't get rid of them quickly, they multiply fast—and suddenly your whole space is full of them. Gross!

So why are we talking about flies on the wall? Did you watch the fourth plague this week? How did you react to seeing that plague of flies swarm the Egyptians? Did it make your skin crawl? Maybe you felt itchy or irritated just watching it. Or maybe, deep down, you thought, "Well, they had it coming!" Let's be honest—someone probably did.

But think about it—Pharaoh's stubbornness provoked God to act. And we know there were ten plagues, so we're only getting started at number four. Now, here's a question for you: how many times have you been the "fly on the wall"—or even worse, the flies in someone else's life? Not physically spreading disease, but spiritually? Have you been spreading gossip, stirring up drama, holding grudges, acting out in anger, or even dealing with self-harm?

Believe it or not, these flies can be a metaphor for our own behavior. And let's not forget—sometimes, the fly on the wall isn't even doing much, but its very presence is annoying. That constant buzzing can still disturb the peace.

Have you ever been that person—the one who walks into a room and others quietly groan, "Ugh, she's here again," or "Not him again..."?

Each of the plagues teaches us something. This week, we can learn how not to be like this plague. If you've been causing distress to yourself or others, it's time to stop letting those "plagues" take over your life. Choose today to start removing those toxic tendencies. Soften your heart—don't let it harden like Pharaoh's.

God didn't want to send those plagues. But Pharaoh and his household were insincere, so God had to keep sending warning after warning—until the final one, which was the most devastating.

Don't wait for your wake-up call. Change now. Let God spare your life, just as He spared His people:

"But on that day I will deal differently with the land of Goshen, where my people live; no swarms of flies will be there, so that you will know that I, the Lord, am in this land. I will make a distinction between my people and your people. This sign will occur tomorrow." — Exodus 8:22–23

God protected His children. They weren't consumed by the plague. So today, choose to be one of His children. Don't be tormented—be covered by His divine protection.





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#### "Time was up. My secrets were exposed, and prison became my reality."

My name is Marcio, and I'm 49 years old. Everything started when I was just 12. I got involved with addiction because of problems at home. My parents separated, and by the time I was 10, I was already smoking, using marijuana, and drinking. That opened the door to other substances. As time went on, to support my addiction, I started committing petty crimes.

At first, it was small thefts and robberies. We'd sell whatever we got. But that was just the beginning. I wanted money to dress well and be popular, so I started getting involved in more serious crimes. I always carried guns with me—I felt like I needed protection.

One day stands out. I went to rob an elderly woman on the street, and I had my gun ready, just in case. But she looked at me and said, "Let me grab my Bible. I'm going to read you the Word of God. And if you still want to rob me after that, go ahead."

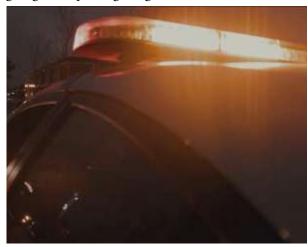
I was stunned. I truly believe God protected both her and me that day. I told her, "It's okay, you can go." Later that day, the police found me. I had taken a mix of drugs and alcohol—I was completely out of my mind, getting ready to pull off what would



be the biggest robbery I'd ever done. But that robbery turned out to be the breaking point. It led straight to prison. Everyone in the neighborhood saw it happen.

out. They had no idea about my lifestyle. I wasn't the kind of criminal who was open about it. I kept everything hidden, doing things quietly with my

My mother didn't know what to do. She was in shock. When I got to prison, I told myself, "I'm going to stop using drugs." But I couldn't resist.



I ended up forming a group inside, and we became one of the worst gangs in that prison. I remember thinking, "I'm surrounded by people just like me. There's no hope."

I was all in—drugs, crime, everything. It was chaos. There were constant riots. I had no peace. Most of the time, I felt ashamed.

After some months, I heard about the UBB. They used to come by the dorms and knock, inviting us to their services. They handed out newspapers and said, "Come join us in the day room." At first, I ignored them. Sometimes I'd take the paper, sometimes I wouldn't.

One day, I said, "Okay, I'll go." I went to a service—then another—and something about the word they shared started to reach me. There was a peace when the UBB came around. Everyone respected them because we knew it was serious.

One thing the pastor said stuck with me: "Even

My parents were heartbroken when they found from the ground, a flower can rise." That hit me. It made me realize that, in God's eyes, I still had value. That word was a seed planted in me. I started to seek God. I watched church programs early in the morning. Not long after that, I was released from prison—and I kept watching, kept seeking.

> Even after I started going to church, I still struggled with addiction. But then I made the decision to let it go. That day changed everything. I don't use drugs anymore.

> My wife and I had always been on and off, separating and getting back together. But she came back and said she wanted to work on our marriage. She gave her life to God too. Now, we're both in the church—with our children—and everything is different.

> The most important thing I received is something the world can't give: the Holy Spirit. God's presence. I have peace now. I can lay my head on the pillow at night and sleep peacefully. Everything I do now works out because I have God with me. Back then, I had money, my wife, parties—but nothing ever worked.

> Now, it's the opposite. Everything I touch succeeds because I walk with God. I made a promise, a covenant with Him, and that means more than anything else. What was once water is now like wine. Today, I help others—people who are addicted, people in prison—because I know what it's like. I used to go in every direction, lost. But now I walk with my head held high, focused on God.



trouble, I searched for the Lord." Psalms 77:1–2

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**GENESIS | 7pm** 

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**BOOST OF FAITH | 10pm** 



















## MONEY WAS EVERYTHING IN MY LIFE

For Marcia, money was everything. "People would ask me what I wanted out of that time, I got pregnant with my fourth life, and I'd always say, 'I want to be rich," child. But when I was three months along, I she says.

fondly: "I had a simple but happy everything would be fine-because that's childhood. In my teenage years, I started what money does to you. It makes you hanging around older people. At 13, I got think you can buy your way out of my first job, and that's when I discovered anything. But I was wrong." what it felt like to earn and have nice Her lawyer gave her devastating news: her things. I was dazzled. I dreamed big-I marriage was over, and this time she wasn't wanted it all."

marriage. After 15 years, they separated. I finally learned what it meant to truly be a Eventually, she remarried a successful man prisoner." with a well-paying job. "I had a life of She recalls how it felt to hit rock bottom: plastic surgeries."

outside-married to financially stable-Marcia admits she Then, one early morning, something everything came crashing down."

Her greed led her into the world of crime. "I like he was telling my story. He spoke about got involved with people I believed were the Holy Spirit. Right then, I got down on powerful. I started selling a product that my knees and told God, 'I want to know didn't even exist. Out of greed, desire for what happiness is, because I've never been power, and the dream of wealth, I ended up happy.' And that day, I received the Holy committing fraud," she says.

Marcia was arrested and spent four months disappeared."

in jail. "I was granted parole, but the lawsuits and threats didn't stop. During was arrested again."

Looking back, she describes her early years This time, things were different. "I thought

getting out after just a few months. "I lost Marcia had three children during her first everything—my marriage, my family—and

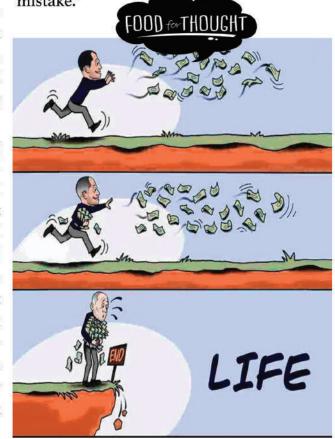
comfort and power," she recalls. "I drove a "When you first arrive in prison, they put luxury car, and I showed off. Even my you in a separate cell. It's meant to help you appearance got attention because I was 'adjust,' but really it's for the reality to sink always getting aesthetic treatments and in-you lost your freedom. I had gone from living in a gated community, with cars and Though her life looked perfect on the travel, to sleeping on a prison floor, taking engineer, medication for depression."

always wanted more. "I could never satisfy shifted. "I spoke to God for the first time. I my desires. I had no peace. I had no limits didn't ask Him to get me out of prison-I when it came to money. Then a situation asked Him to take my life because I didn't came up that looked like the chance to have want to wake up again. Right after that, I everything I ever wanted. That's when saw a program on TV from The Universal Church. The pastor was talking, and it was Spirit. All the pain, all the anguish—it

#### learned that the greatest wealth isn't material..."

Marcia spent one year and seven months in prison. During that time, everything changed. "I learned that the greatest wealth isn't material—it's something no one can take from you. It's having the Living God inside you. It's peace, it's unconditional love, and it's real happiness. What I truly needed was the Holy Spirit. And I wouldn't trade that for anything in the world."

Today, Marcia is a beautician, finishing her last semester of studies. She shares her transformation with conviction: "My faith used to be in money and things. It was never in God-and that was my biggest mistake."



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