

Showdown of Faith in Boston

The fall of every wall

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What's happening at

UNIVERSAL

MIRACLES

Defying all medical odds, she was healed from a chronic disease

Sunday at 10 AM

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UNIVERSAL NEWS



SCAN ME

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SUNDAY AT 10 AM

Water is life, but when blessed by God, it becomes a divine remedy. Countless people have already experienced His power by drinking the Blessed Water in faith. This Sunday, you're invited to receive the Holy Water from the well at Solomon's Temple. In this edition, you'll read powerful stories from those who have witnessed God's miracles firsthand. Don't miss the opportunity to experience His power in your own life.

BLESSED WATER

from the Temple of Solomon



"The doctors said there was nothing more they could do."

(Read Mary Ellen's story on page 6)

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Bishop Edir Macedo

The law of faith



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NOT TO BE SOLD

| IN THIS EDITION |

The blessed water from the Temple of Solomon

This Sunday, at every Universal Church nationwide, you will have the opportunity to receive the blessed water from the Temple of Solomon.

On August 3rd, hundreds of pastors from over 140 countries gathered at the Temple of Solomon with the prayer requests of their nations, crying out for Divine Justice. Among them was Pastor David, who represented the United States and the Universal Prison Ministry (UBB). While at the Temple, he went to the Well of Miracles to collect the blessed water and bring it back to the U.S.

Through the use of this water, countless people have shared powerful testimonies of God's healing power. But what makes this place so special? The Temple of Solomon is the only construction for which God Himself gave the blueprint. It is a place He designated as His dwelling, and it carries a promise.

In 2 Chronicles 7:15–16, God says: "Now My eyes will be open and My ears attentive to prayer made in this place. For now I have chosen and sanctified this house, that My name may be there forever; and My eyes and My heart will be there perpetually." This promise still stands today. God not only hears the prayers made in this place, but everything that comes from it is also blessed.

If you are in need of God's healing, whether physical, emotional, or spiritual, this invitation is for you. Come and receive the blessed water from the Temple of Solomon, and believe that God is ready to fulfill His promise in your life.

Join us this Sunday at a Universal Church near you. Service times: 7 AM, 10 AM, 3 PM, and 6 PM. (Times may vary by location. Please contact your nearest Universal Church for details.)



Bishop Edir Macedo

The Law of Faith



God created human beings to be free to live their lives as they choose. This includes the freedom to love or hate, to accept or reject Him as Lord.

He also gave people the gift of creating children, so they could understand, in part, what He feels toward humanity. If parents feel sorrow when they see their children acting in disobedience and rebellion, imagine how the Creator must feel.

Freedom, however, is like a double-edged sword. It allows us to choose eternal life or eternal death, and that choice depends on each person's mindset.

So how can we make decisions that align with God and lead to a life of eternal quality? How should we respond to daily challenges? How do we overcome difficulties while relying on God's help? And how can we be sure we are on the right path?

That is where the law of supernatural faith comes in. It is the voice of God speaking within His faithful followers. This voice refuses to let doubt trap our free will, and it keeps alive the joy of living a full and meaningful life.



Sadly, many have been robbed of the joy of an abundant life because of man-made doctrines claimed to be "in the name of God," or because of wrong interpretations of the Bible. Others have confused personal customs and traditions with true apostolic teachings.

The voice of God, which is faith, drives out fear and empowers us to make choices that align with His will. That is why it is written, "The just will live by faith" (Habakkuk 2:4). This is the foundation of a true quality of life.

Listen to the voice of faith, for it is the voice of God. Follow it, and do not let your life be guided by someone else's faith.



"His condition was the most critical in the ICU"

of motor and neurological damage. Even some of his organs, like his heart and spleen, had shifted out of place. His heartbeat slowed down dangerously. His condition was the most critical in the ICU."

"Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand."

Doctors eventually discovered that Messiah had a generalized infection and Kawasaki disease, a rare inflammation that affects the blood vessels and can damage the heart. Treatment involved costly medication. Despite receiving it, Messiah had to be intubated two more times over the following three weeks. His struggle to breathe was so intense that his ribs expanded visibly. At one point, one of his lungs collapsed, requiring additional treatment.

Rafael adds, "New problems kept appearing, but each time, a solution followed right after. It was amazing."

A source of strength

In the midst of this storm, faith became the family's daily strength. A pastor and his wife visited Thais at the hospital, offering a prayer. From that day on, she and Rafael leaned on their faith. "We fasted, used the blessed water, and prayed at 3 a.m. with family and friends in a prayer chain," Thais says. "I know God was there with us."

The miracle

Twenty-one days after being admitted, Messiah's tests came back clear. He was cured. Thais calls it "an immense relief, a miracle, a living testimony." She adds, "My son left the hospital healed and without any after-effects. I thank God every day. Messiah is a miracle from God in our lives."

Rafael agrees. "There is no doubt the healing came through faith. The situation was extremely serious, and it's important to cling to God not only during hard times, but every day."

Today, Messiah is healthy, energetic, and full of life. For his parents, he is living proof that faith goes beyond human limits. The family continues to use the blessed water from the Universal Church each Sunday as part of their faith and to maintain their health.



On May 6 of this year, business owners Rafael Montelo, 33, and his wife, Thais Montelo, 32, faced a life-changing crisis. Their 2-year-old son, Messiah, had been suffering from a chronic fever, loss of appetite, and fatigue. They took him to four different doctors, yet none could give them a diagnosis.

During what was supposed to be a simple hydration visit, Messiah suddenly had a seizure. It was the first time anything like this had happened to him. He had always been healthy and had never been hospitalized before. His condition deteriorated quickly, and he needed emergency intubation after losing consciousness. Thais spent Mother's Day at her son's side in the Intensive Care Unit.

The diagnosis

Messiah remained hospitalized for 15 days. Thais recalls those moments with emotion:

"We went through terrifying situations. I remember seeing my son's hands and feet turn purple and cold from lack of oxygen. He was at risk

| BEATING DEPRESSION |

Depression is more than just feeling sad. It is a deep, overwhelming sorrow that weighs down the soul. It brings hopelessness, drains motivation, and makes even the simplest tasks feel impossible. In severe cases, it can even take away a person's will to live. Depression is not only a state of mind, it is a sickness of the soul. But what 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 will receive spiritual strength through powerful prayers, practical guidance, and one-on-one counseling.

You are not alone in this fight. Thousands of people 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. You can overcome depression

BEAT DEPRESSION
BEATING DEPRESSION THROUGH THE POWER OF FAITH!

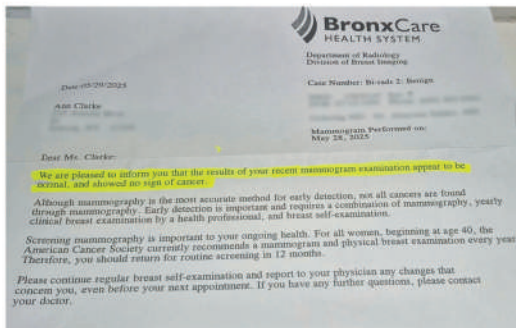
Call 1.888.332.4141
Text 1.888.312.4141
For more information
SEE PAGE 12 FOR LOCATIONS

Experience the Power of God this Sunday



“They saw signs of cancer”

My name is Ann Clark. Last year, I went in for a mammogram, and the doctors told me they saw signs of cancer. Right then and there, I said to myself, “No. I’m not accepting this.” That problem made me use my faith much more. Well, I drank the blessed water every single day. I never stopped. And when I got home, I would wash my breasts with it. I didn’t tell a soul; that was something between me and God. Day after day, I kept using my faith and believing in my healing. And then came the day of my miracle. When I went back for another test, the doctor smiled and said, “Ms. Clark, we’re pleased to tell you that your mammogram is completely normal. There’s no sign of cancer.”



I can’t even describe the joy I felt in that moment. And I want you to know—if you’re reading this—no matter what sickness you’re facing, you can hear those same words: “You have nothing. You’re healed.” Jesus Christ is Lord, and I thank God with all my heart for my healing.

“He won’t make it through the week”



Doctors had given up on him — But God didn’t. In June 2018, construction worker Carlos, 64, felt a sudden sharp pain in his abdomen while at work. Doctors discovered fluid in his abdomen and lungs, kidney and liver infections, and organ failure. His weight dropped from 158 to 79 pounds, and after more than 300 tests, they still had no diagnosis. The week of Father’s Day, doctors told his family to prepare for the worst. “They said I wouldn’t make it through the week,” Carlos recalls. But his wife, Marcia, refused to give up. She prayed, brought him blessed water from the Universal Church, and believed God would heal him. Carlos endured 52 days in the hospital, three cardiac arrests, and months of dialysis. Then, during the Holy Fire Campaign, he went to the Altar — carried because he couldn’t walk — and made his offering to God.

That same week, he took his first steps. Soon after, the fluid was gone, the swelling disappeared, and he walked into his doctor’s office. “They called it a miracle,” he says.

Today, Carlos is back at work, grateful for the life God restored.



RECEIVE THE HEALING WATERS THIS SUNDAY
at your nearest
Universal Church



“Defying all medical odds, she was healed from a chronic disease.”



Her parents refused to accept the doctors’ verdict. When Victoria was just 3 years old, red spots began to appear around her mouth. At first, doctors thought it was an allergy to yogurt or her pacifier. She was prescribed an expensive anti-allergy cream, but the condition only got worse. Soon, small bumps appeared more frequently.

A hospital visit brought a harsher reality — an aggressive form of atopic dermatitis. Doctors prescribed daily oral medication for life. The drug made her very drowsy, hurting her school performance. Worse, she suffered bullying from classmates who feared her condition was contagious.



Her parents had already witnessed miracles at the Universal Church and decided to fight for their daughter’s healing through faith. Every Sunday, they walked to church with water for prayer, then gave it to her to drink and applied it to her skin. They prayed

through the night, determined to believe God over the diagnosis. Over time, the spots completely disappeared. Doctors were stunned — the disease was chronic and, medically speaking, incurable.

Today, Victoria is healthy, free from medication, and with flawless skin. Alongside her parents, she continues to learn the value of faith and the importance of trusting God for her health.



|Message|

BISHOP JOSHUA

DIVINE HEALING VS HUMAN HEALING



We see many people fighting and struggling with different kinds of diseases. Doctors and medical professionals do their best to help, but the question remains:

Why is it that the same doctors, the same procedures, the same methods, and the same medications that help one patient do not help another? How is it possible that, even though both receive the same treatment, one gets better while the other gets worse?

The answer is this: there are two kinds of sickness — human sickness and spiritual sickness.

Human sickness happens when you neglect your body or health and end up getting sick. Your body becomes contaminated or poisoned, which leads to a physical illness.

Spiritual sickness is different. It shows up as long-lasting conditions that do not get better, even after treatments and medications. You may spend more time in the hospital than at home, so much so that the staff know you by name because you visit so often. Doctors may eventually say there is nothing more they can do. You get passed from doctor to doctor, specialist to specialist. Your health worsens, and your home starts to look like a pharmacy. This is what we call spiritual sickness.

When you have spiritual sickness, you need divine healing. When human knowledge, hands, and resources cannot help, it becomes clear that only God can heal you. Spiritual sickness cannot be cured by human means; healing only comes through the power of God. That is why the Lord Jesus took upon Himself all sickness and sorrow when He went to the cross.

As you read this, say to Jesus: “Jesus, by Your stripes I am healed.” Take hold of your divine healing today.

“And by His stripes we are healed.” Isaiah 53:5

May the God of the Bible bless you.

AUGUST BIBLE READING 2025						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 LUKE 1 ✓	2 LUKE 2 ✓
3 LUKE 3 ✓	4 LUKE 4 ✓	5 LUKE 5 ✓	6 LUKE 6 ✓	7 LUKE 7 ✓	8 LUKE 8 ✓	9 LUKE 9 ✓
10 LUKE 10 ✓	11 LUKE 11 ✓	12 LUKE 12 ✓	13 LUKE 13 ✓	14 LUKE 14 ✓	15 LUKE 15 ✓	16 LUKE 16 ✓
17 LUKE 17 ✓	18 LUKE 18 ✓	19 LUKE 19 ✓	20 LUKE 20 ✓	21 LUKE 21 ✓	22 LUKE 22 ✓	23 LUKE 23 ✓
24 LUKE 24 ✓	25 EPHESIANS 1 ✓	26 EPHESIANS 2 ✓	27 EPHESIANS 3 ✓	28 EPHESIANS 4 ✓	29 EPHESIANS 5 ✓	30 EPHESIANS 6 ✓
31 JUDE 1 ✓						

WHEN DOCTORS SAID, “SHE WILL DIE,” FAITH SPOKE LOUDER

A young mother's unshakable faith turned a medical tragedy into a story of hope and healing.



count dropped, her vital organs began to fail, and instead of gaining weight, she was losing more. Born at only 2.65 pounds, she was growing weaker. Specialists warned that if she survived, she would likely have brain damage.

Layla faced more complications, and even strong antibiotics stopped working. “The more the doctors tried, the worse she got,”

Andressa remembers. “But I refused to give up. I put my faith into action.”

She began attending the Universal Church and took part in the Healing Treatment. She received the blessed water to use in faith for her daughter. “I could not take anything into the ICU, so every time I visited, I would wet a piece of cotton, put it in my pocket,

The birth of a child is one of life's greatest joys for any mother. But for 21-year-old homemaker Andressa, what should have been a happy moment quickly turned into a nightmare. Her daughter, Layla, who is now two years old, was born at just six months.

“I went to the hospital with strong contractions and a lot of pain,” Andressa recalls. “But the doctors

“Every time I visited, I would wet a piece of cotton, put it in my pocket, and anoint her belly.”



told me to go home. Even though I had done all my prenatal care correctly, I went into premature labor. It was terrifying for my whole family.”

Not long after she got home, Andressa's water broke and Layla was born on the floor. “I didn't hear her cry. She was purple. She was already gone. I was desperate. I called for help, but the ambulance took too long. My neighbors rushed me to the nearest emergency room.”

As soon as they arrived, nurses took the newborn into the ER. A doctor immediately began resuscitation and intubated her. “The doctor told me God used her that day because she had never done that procedure on a newborn before.”

After revivi Layla, they transferred her to a maternity hospital for specialized care. But the prognosis was devastating. “The doctors told me not to get attached because she would not make it,” Andressa says. “Hearing those words was one of the hardest moments of my life.”

Every day Andressa visited her daughter, but the news only got worse. Layla had developed sepsis, a severe blood infection. Her platelet

and anoint her belly. I told God, ‘She will be healed.’ I knew my God is the God of miracles.”

For more than two months, Andressa divided her days between the church and the hospital, holding on to her belief that God would save Layla's life. Against all odds, Layla recovered. Her weight reached a healthy level, her platelet count returned to normal, and she had no brain damage or developmental delays.

Today, Layla is a happy, bright, and healthy child. “Her life is living proof of God's glory,” Andressa says. “She is a reminder that faith can move mountains, even if it is just the size of a mustard seed.”

Andressa now shares her story to encourage others not to lose hope in tough times. “May Layla's testimony inspire many and bring hope to those who feel there is no way out. Never underestimate the power of faith and hope.”

You too can use your faith to see healing in your life or for a loved one. Visit the Universal Church near you this Sunday at 10 AM to receive the blessed water.

— Andressa Santos

What's happening at the Universal Church

Showdown of Faith The fall of every wall

"Even though your problems may seem bigger than you, they are not bigger than your God."



With these powerful words, Bishop Bira Joshua opened the Showdown of Faith in Boston, Massachusetts, on Thursday, August 7. The atmosphere was filled with faith and expectation as people from all walks of life gathered, determined to see the walls in their lives come crashing down.

one, they received strong prayers, and many testified that they could already feel God's power working in their lives.

Bishop Bira explained that there is one wall no one else can remove for us, a wall we must tear down ourselves. That wall is called a grudge. Holding on to past hurts, he said, keeps us bound and prevents God's blessings from flowing freely. Forgiveness, on the other hand, is the key that opens the door to freedom and peace.

As he spoke, the room grew still. Faces softened. Hearts began to open. Then, with humility and faith, people were invited to come to the Altar. Many stepped forward, symbolically laying down their grudges and making the decision to let go once and for all.

The night ended with a renewed sense of hope. The Showdown of Faith was more than just another meeting. For many, it was a turning point, the moment their walls began to fall.



Many came carrying heavy burdens, spiritual walls that had blocked their paths for years. Some were dealing with broken families, others with health struggles, financial difficulties, or deep emotional wounds. One by

"You just have a lump of fat, the doctor said."



Ten years ago, Mary Nunes, 52, while taking a shower, noticed a lump in her left breast. "I've always taken care of my health, despite having little education, so I went to the gynecologist I

had at the time. The mammogram she ordered showed nothing, but the ultrasound revealed a two-centimeter lump. The doctor told me to see a breast specialist, and I scheduled the appointment. When I went, the doctor said it was nothing: 'You just have a fatty lump.' I thought it was strange, since I was as thin as a stick," she recalls.

Six months later, she began to notice increasing swelling in her body. "I went to another doctor who said, 'You're dying.' He questioned whether I didn't know what cancer was and how I had let it get to that point. When I told him the first doctor had said it was nothing and showed him my scans, he even changed his tone. I had a tumor the size of an orange under my collarbone, which could not be operated on, and several others in my ribs," she explains.

To make matters worse, shortly afterward, Maria was fired from her employer. "I had no health insurance, just a check for \$5,000 in my pocket. I was completely lost. I tried to get treatment at a specialized hospital, but I couldn't. I was in shock for two days and considered throwing myself in front of a car. By then, I wasn't eating properly, wasn't sleeping, and was seeing shadows," she recalls.

Her son, Rafael, who was a preteen at the time, attended Universal Church at the invitation of a church assistant and even invited Mary to attend the meetings. "In my mind, it was a bunch of thieves. When my son was younger, I even asked the Church for help because I was going through difficulties. Bishop Macedo told me that, through my faith, I could change that situation. Only much later did I understand what he meant. That's why, when my son invited me, I declined," she says.

Mary's medical treatment included 19 chemotherapy sessions and 30 radiation therapy ses-

sions. "I had five surgeries because I had to have my entire breast removed. Only the skin and nipple remained. One of the operations was to insert a catheter. They removed everything from under my armpit, I lost the defenses on my left arm, got an infection, and had to take an antibiotic costing almost \$1,000.

When they got home, Mary's son saw what had happened and was furious. "He said, 'Mom, you're not going to die. We're going to seek God.' He began to fight for me; it was a battle. He brought the blessed water from the church, and I bathed with it, as I didn't have the strength to leave the house. We participated in the prayers and the resolutions, I read the book of Psalms, and I did everything that was said at the Altar, because I didn't want to die. I wanted to be able to spend a long time with my husband and my son, watching him grow and develop," she says.

Besides battling cancer, Mary also faced other adversities. "While I was undergoing chemotherapy, I had to interrupt treatment because tests showed I had gallstones. I had emergency surgery to remove them. It was a real struggle," she says.

After all the treatment, she was told she would have to wear a compression brace for the rest of her life to prevent swelling in her limb. "I determined by faith that I wouldn't wear it, and I didn't need it. I also had to take medication for five years to prevent the cancer from returning, but it could compromise my bone structure. After a series of tests, the doctor told me I couldn't take the medication. I asked why, and he said, 'Because you won't need it.' I cried a lot."

Mary says she immediately gave credit for the cure to the doctor. "I said, 'Thank you, doctor.' It hadn't occurred to me that it was God's doing. When I got home and spoke to my son, he hugged me, took the blessed water, and said, 'Mom, what's healing you is faith in God.' At that moment, I understood what Bishop Macedo had said back then. I learned to use faith in all aspects of my life, and my advice to anyone suffering is to throw themselves on the altar, seek God, and the Holy Spirit. The fundamental thing is to have faith in God, whether to be cured of cancer or any other disease. Medicine helps, but without God, we are nothing," she concludes.



BACK TO SCHOOL



Back-to-School Drive overflows with impact

YPG Georgia's annual Back-to-School Drive turned out to be nothing short of a blessing. What was planned as one big event quickly became four separate gatherings because so many students and families showed up. From the start, it was clear this wasn't just about handing out school supplies—it was about making a real difference. Each meeting was filled with excitement, encouragement, and a strong message of hope and determination for the school year ahead. Backpacks, notebooks, and other essentials were given out, but the greatest gift was the atmosphere of care and empowerment that touched every student. Once again, YPG Georgia showed that when young people come together with purpose, they can truly change lives.



A New Start



• YPG Member

YPG is more than just a church group. It's the place where I truly discovered who I am. I used to keep to myself and put up walls, but the love, unity, and support I found here helped me open my heart. In YPG, it doesn't matter where you come from because everyone belongs. We can be ourselves, grow in our faith, and share how God has worked in our lives. Being part of this group has changed the way I think, helped me grow as a person, and reminded me that I'm never alone.

A means to achieve the impossible

Throughout history, some of the world's most iconic landmarks have carried the signature of brilliant minds. The Eiffel Tower and the Statue of Liberty showcase the engineering genius of Gustave Eiffel. The awe-inspiring Christ the Redeemer in Rio was designed by Eitor da Silva Costa. The majestic Taj Mahal is the legacy of Ustad Ahmad Lahori. These monuments reflect the vision, talent, and mastery of the human spirit.

But there is one structure whose design goes beyond human imagination, a place whose blueprint was given by the very Author of the universe, the Temple of Solomon. God not only revealed its dimensions and materials, He placed His very presence there. Recently, one of our pastors traveled from the United States to a replica of the Temple. He carried thousands of prayer requests and returned with something sacred, water from the well of the Temple.

Without water, there is no life. It is no coincidence that the Lord Jesus presents Himself as the Source of the Water of Life, and the Word of God is also represented by the water that purifies us. It is a sacred element and a point of contact with faith.

In one of the most memorable passages in the Bible, the Lord Jesus met a Samaritan woman at a well. Seeing her need for water, He said, "Whoever drinks the water I give will never thirst. The water I give will become in them a spring of water flowing into eternal life" (John 4:14). Many people today are thirsty, not for physical water, but for a complete family, restored health, a happy marriage, or a new life. Only the Lord Jesus can satisfy that thirst.

This is why the Universal Church fulfills its mission of faith with the consecration of water every Sunday. On this occasion, people bring their water during prayer and then use it for various needs, from healing illnesses and overcoming addictions to restoring family relationships, according to their faith. The water is used to awaken faith, and the greatest mistake people can make is to treat something God declared holy as if it were ordinary.

Now, get ready America. This Sunday, you will have the chance to receive this blessed water and see the God of the Bible turn His promises into power in your life. Come expecting healing, answers, and miracles through your faith. Go to your nearest Universal Church this Sunday at 10 AM to learn more about the blessed water. See the back page for locations.

BIESSED WATER from the Temple of Solomon



His chance of survival was 1%

Despite being healthy and not experiencing major complications in early childhood, at age 7, a bout of the flu worsened and landed Maxwell Marques in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU). During this time, we went to the hospital several times, tried various treatments, and he wasn't getting better. Finally, the doctor saw that his oxygen saturation was at 79%, when ideally it should be above 94%. Pulmonary exercises were performed to ensure his body remained oxygenated until he reached the ICU. There, he had to be intubated because he could no longer breathe," says Mary Ellen Marques, Maxwell's mother.

Initial tests revealed the presence of water in the lung, known as pleural effusion, which is caused by inflammation of the organ's tissue. "That same day, already in the ICU, his fever rose, and he went into respiratory arrest and then cardiac arrest. The doctors were able to revive him, but I

didn't have much information about the case until then. I was in shock from everything that was happening and only had the strength to ask people I knew for prayers," she says.

The next day, she received more bad news: his condition had progressed to kidney failure. She describes her son's condition: "When I saw him, he was very swollen. He looked as if he were obese, and I didn't even recognize him. Furthermore, the doctors told me there was nothing more to be done and that his chance of survival was 1%. Since he could die at any moment, they suggested I call the family to say goodbye. I went into shock and



didn't hear anything else."

The words of death

Seeing a sick child is not an easy situation, but watching him slowly lose his life affected Mary Ellen, who describes her reaction: "I didn't want to know the chances and asked how they would proceed. The doctor suggested trying dialysis, and he gradually deflated. Every day, however, I heard negative words. For example, that he wouldn't make it or that, if he survived, he would have some kind of after-effect."

All medical treatment continued, but Mary Ellen also turned to faith, both to help with the treatment and to strengthen her so she could be with her son. She already knew the Universal Church and knew that it wasn't right to question the situation, but to use the supernatural power of faith to reverse it. "I spent the whole time praying, taking the water consecrated at the Universal meetings, putting it on a cotton ball and anointing it, going to prayer chains and making vows at the Altar," she explains.

She reveals that her inner strength grew, and she rejected the death threats coming from the medical team and began to believe that a miracle could happen. "I remained constantly attached to the Word and the things of God. I prayed and remained steadfast. Until one day, he coughed and then showed other signs that his lungs and other organs were

recovering,” she explains. The stability of his health was a sign that the first battle had been won. The next battle was to eliminate the possibility of sequelae. “All the doctors said he would develop some kind of problem, and it was another period of determination and great faith. He underwent treatment and made a full recovery, which impressed the doctors,” comments Mary Ellen.

An interesting detail in the family’s story is that her testimony of faith and perseverance reached others who were also experiencing health

difficulties. “People saw the results he had, and their mothers began to use their faith, started going to church, and their children were also healed.”

Today, Maxwell leads a normal life for a teenager his age, with no after-effects and no need for specialist treatment. “God healed him completely, and he has no limitations. I saw the supernatural, and I can say I felt God’s presence constantly. After going through this struggle, I became stronger, more independent of others, and more dependent on God,” she concludes.

“Doctors told me I would need treatment for the rest of my life.”

At just 15 years old, Giovanna Rocha began having severe abdominal pain. Her mother rushed her to the hospital, where the surgeon suspected appendicitis and prescribed medication. She was scheduled for surgery, but shortly before the procedure, the doctor changed his mind. He told her the pain was probably caused by fluid buildup and that medication alone would fix the problem.

“I stayed in the hospital for three days under observation. Then they sent me home with medicine for the pain,” Giovanna recalls. Even after being discharged, the pain never went away. It became unbearable, so her mother took her to another hospital. “They ran some tests and at first thought I needed an appendectomy because the pain was so similar, but then they diagnosed me with terminal ileitis, which is a disease that affects the intestinal wall. The doctor gave me antibiotics, but after five days, the pain came back even stronger,” she says.

Hospitals and medications

When the pain returned, Giovanna went back to the hospital and underwent a series of tests: a CT scan, ultrasound, MRI, and colonoscopy. That is when they gave her the correct diagnosis: Crohn’s disease, a condition that causes inflammation in the intestines and can affect the entire digestive system. Left untreated, it could have developed into colon cancer.

She remembers the hardest moment: “The doctors told me I would have to live with this disease and take treatment for the rest of my life. They said there was no cure. I couldn’t eat, I developed severe anemia, and I felt pain all over my body. I weighed about 70 pounds, and none of my clothes fit anymore.”

To treat the anemia, she had to go to the hospital every two weeks to receive intravenous iron. “I could see how much my mother was suffering with me. It was like she could feel my pain,” she says. At that time, Giovanna already knew the Word of God, but she had distanced herself from Him. Still, she decided to join a



campaign of faith at church, though she admits she did not fully surrender her life to God. She continued to follow her own will, and without truly understanding faith, her situation only got worse. Eventually, she ended up back in the hospital, and the doctor told her surgery was the only option.

Obedience and response

Giovanna did not end up needing a colostomy bag, but doctors said there was nothing more they could do. She knew exactly where to turn, to the Doctor of doctors. “I came back to Jesus, went through the healing treatment at the Universal Church, and drank the blessed water. My life only started to change when I surrendered myself completely at the Altar of God,” she says.

This time, when she joined the campaign of faith, her prayer was not for physical healing. She asked for something greater, the baptism with the Holy Spirit. “My true healing happened when I sought the Kingdom of God and His righteousness first. The other blessings came as a result of my obedience at the Altar. I knew that being physically healed would not matter if my soul was still in pain.”

A month after her full surrender to God, she went back to the hospital and got surprising news. “The first thing God healed was my anemia. The blood test showed I was completely cured, and I did not need iron treatments anymore. Three months later, I weighed 97 pounds, all the weight I had lost came back.”

Today, Giovanna is completely healthy. She has no dietary restrictions, works full time, and serves God as a volunteer. “Jesus changed my life, but He does not do anything without our permission. He waits for us to take action so He can perform the miracle,” she says.

Note: The Universal Church teaches the practice of spiritual faith combined with the medical treatment recommended for each patient.

MAKE A

CHAIN OF PRAYER

IT WORKS!

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.



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!”

Be watchful of your pride

In 1912, more than one hundred years ago, a ship called the Titanic was about to set sail for the first time. It was the largest and most luxurious ship ever built at that time. People saw it as a symbol of progress, power, and human achievement.

Someone even said, “Not even God can sink the Titanic.” That was not just confidence, it was pure pride.

But only a few days after leaving the dock, the ship struck an iceberg and sank. More than fifteen hundred people lost their lives. It became one of the most well-known disasters in history.

Do I believe God sank the Titanic? No. But the story teaches us something important: when pride takes over, we set ourselves up for a fall. Thinking we are untouchable, above everyone else, or even above God, is a dangerous place to be.

PRIDE IS HEAVY

The Bible says, “Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.” Proverbs 16:18

It is true. Pride can make us appear strong or in control on the outside, but the more we feed it, the heavier it becomes, until eventually it is too much to carry.

Think about how many people, maybe even ourselves, ended up in a bad place because pride got in the way. We did not want to listen. We did not want to admit we were wrong. We wanted to prove something, maybe to others or maybe to ourselves. And that pride led to decisions we now regret.

Some people would rather lose everything than say, “I messed up. I am sorry.” That is how

powerful pride can be.

HERE IS THE TRUTH

Every one of us has pride in us, without exception. Some of us show it more than others, but it is there. And unless we are honest about it, it will keep controlling us.

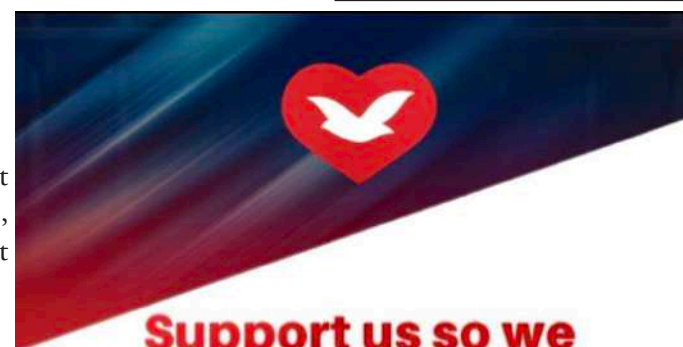
Pride makes us hard when we should be soft. It makes us push people away when we should ask for help. It makes us hold grudges, stay angry, or refuse to forgive, even ourselves.

But there is hope. The first step to change is recognizing it. When you notice pride creeping in, when you start feeling defensive, stubborn, or cold, that is your moment to stop and choose a different way. That is your chance to fight back with humility.

Humility is not weakness. It is strength under control. It is choosing to grow instead of staying stuck. It is being real with yourself and with God.

You cannot change the past, but you can decide how you will walk forward. Pride wants to trap you. Humility is the key that opens doors to peace, healing, and freedom, no matter where you are.

Let us be real with ourselves. Let us choose humility.



Support us so we can support them!

Perhaps you ask, “How?” Well, your donation helps us support the work that the UBB does to assist those internally and externally in prison.

You allow us to conduct graduation ceremonies for the inmates, provide food, distribute hygienic kits occasionally, and much more. To donate, simply scan this QR code for Zelle or make a direct deposit in our Wells Fargo account!

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at ubb@universalbeyondbars.org



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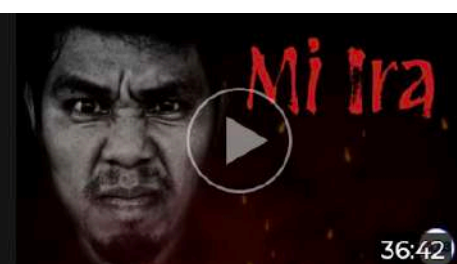
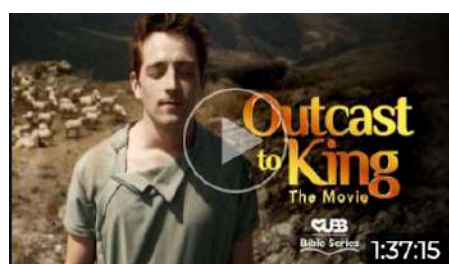


You can send a check or money order in the name of “Universal Beyond Bars” and drop off your donations of hygiene items to the address below (bar soap, deodorants -nonaerosol, toothpaste, body wash, shampoo, conditioner) to

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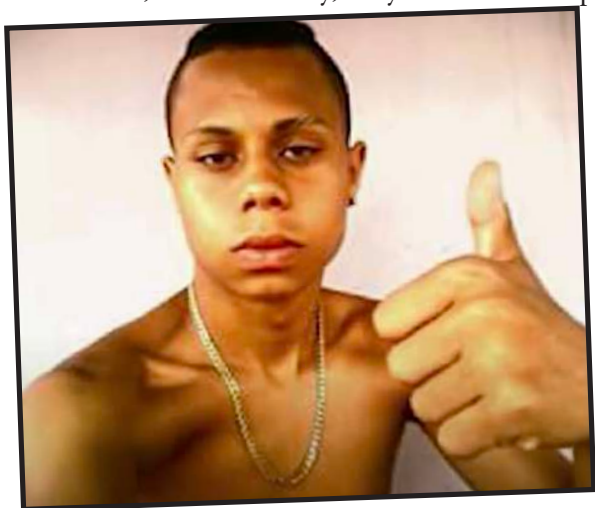


My Story - From Crime to a New Life

My name is Isaac. I was born into a broken family. My mother was only 15 when she had me, and my father had been a drug trafficker for 30 years. Yes, you understood correctly, he was much older than my mother. Even while pregnant, my mother was involved in assaults, drug trafficking, and drug use. While she was expecting me, and after I was born, she continued to use crack, often leaving me and my siblings alone. She was rarely present in my life, and sometimes I would not see her for a year or even two.



During that time, my father left his life of crime to work and provide for us, but he was gone all day. From the ages of two to three, my grandparents cared for us, but eventually, they could not keep



us. My parents lost everything. When I was ten, I suffered abuse from a family member. It deeply damaged me mentally, filling me with anger and a desire to hurt others the way I had been hurt. By twelve, I was introduced to drugs.

I will never forget the first time, because it made me feel happy, and soon I wanted more. Later, I moved back with my father, who still had some involvement with his old lifestyle. We even used drugs together. Eventually, I started trafficking drugs myself and committing armed assaults.

At fourteen, I was arrested for the first time. When I was released, I went right back to crime. My thoughts were dark; I saw people only as opportunities to steal from. Not long after, I was arrested again. This time, reality hit me. I thought about my life, the abuse, the absence of my parents, and seeing my mother on drugs. I was filled with fear and anguish. One night, I prayed to God, crying from my soul for Him to take me out of that life.



Not long after, a group from the UBB came to the prison and spoke about salvation. I decided I wanted a new life. I was baptized, realizing my old lifestyle had no future.

My desire for drugs, trafficking, and crime disappeared little by little. Instead, I began praying daily and asking God for strength to resist temptation.

During this time, I received the Holy Spirit. It happened on a Thursday morning in the prison bathroom after hearing a message about seeking God like a child seeks milk from its mother. This meant seeking God with everything, as if I were

starving, because a child who is hungry will not stop crying until it is fed. I needed to be fed within my soul. In that moment, I felt something deeper than anything drugs had ever given me. I knew without a doubt that God was real and living within me. At fifteen, I began telling others about Jesus. The guys who had been arrested with me could not understand my transformation. They would question it all the time, wondering how I had changed. Even though I was still in prison physically, I had been set free spiritually. Today, that joy remains, and unlike the temporary high from drugs, this joy grows every day. I no longer run to drugs when life gets hard; I run to God. Now I work, have a family, and help others. People who once disliked or feared me now say they



cannot believe I am the same person. My family sees the change and calls it a miracle. I am a new creation, and I give my best in everything I do. Just as I once gave my life to crime, I now give it to God, and He transformed me completely. What He did for me, He can do for you. He gave me life, and I will never let it go.



I'm counting down the days...It feels like forever. I want to go home." You don't understand.

Speak out, I am all ears! If you want to be added to my E-Message list, send me a letter with the correct info to: 7075 SW. Fwy. Houston, TX 77074.

Include: Name/ID #, Facility, Complete Address, City/State, and the Zip code.

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**BREAKING THE SILENCE
1pm**

**FIGHTING THE UNSEEN
ENEMY 2pm**
with Bishop David

**AT THE EDGE OF DEATH
4pm**

TEN COMMANDMENTS | 5pm

GENESIS | 7pm

JESUS THE SERIES | 9pm

BOOST OF FAITH | 10pm



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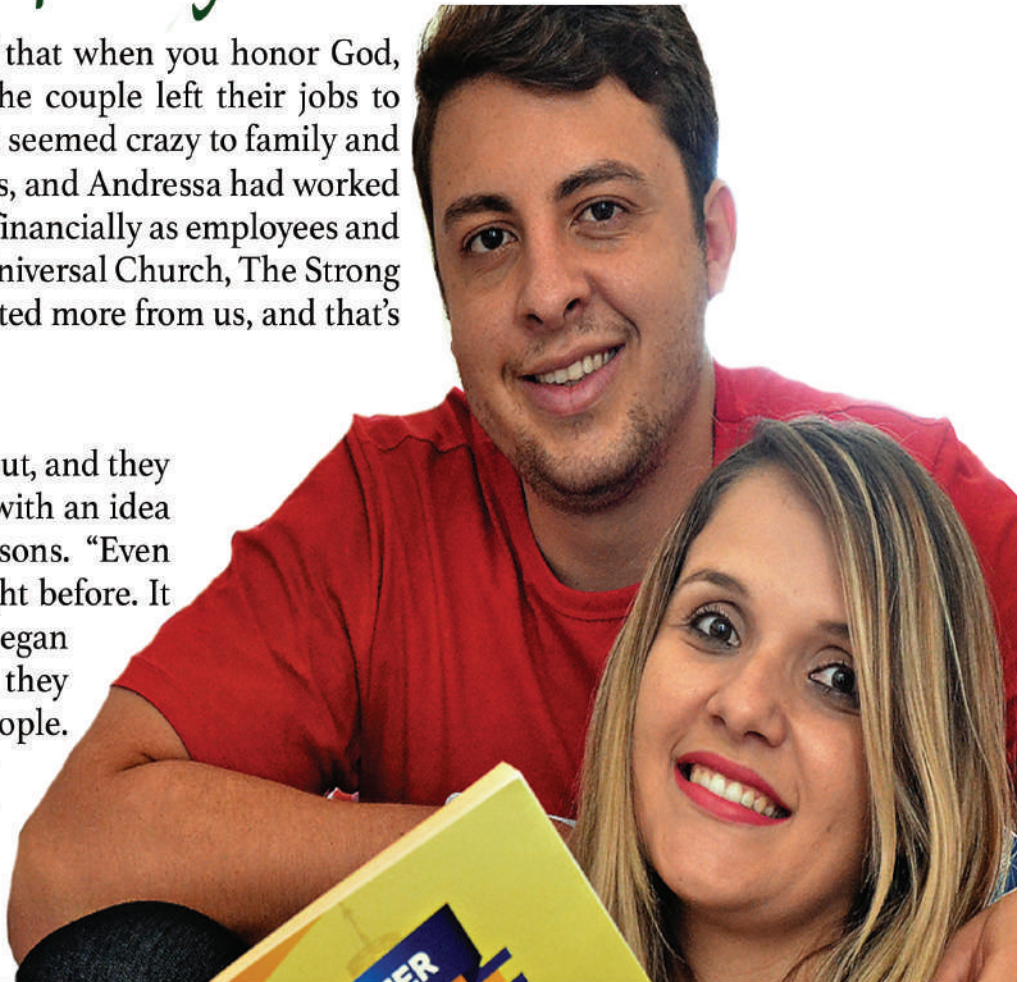


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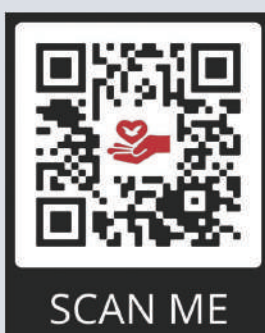
Mark Junior, 27, and Andressa, 28, are proof that when you honor God, nothing will be missing from your life. The couple left their jobs to invest in their own business, a decision that seemed crazy to family and friends at the time. Junior had been an athlete for 15 years, and Andressa had worked in the financial sector for five years. "We were doing well financially as employees and were already taking part in the Monday services at The Universal Church, The Strong Nation," Junior says. "But it still wasn't enough. God wanted more from us, and that's why we started our business."

They understood they needed an idea that would stand out, and they sought it at the Altar. One morning, Andressa woke up with an idea she knew came from God: to give private English lessons. "Even though we knew different languages, we had never taught before. It seemed like a crazy idea," she recalls. At first, they began teaching in a small room in their condominium. Then they moved to a small space that could only seat seven people. Eventually, they were able to move into a much larger location of their own. "Nothing about it was easy," Junior says. "Everything we achieved came from a vow we made to God at the Altar. That vow is the reason we are where we are today."

Strength, determination, and perseverance are at the heart of this couple's success, with God as their foundation. "Without a commitment to God, you can't achieve or overcome anything in life," Junior concludes. "When we give to Him, He gives us double in return. He is faithful and never fails."



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