



Doctors gave him only a one percent chance of survival.

Sunday at 10 AM
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MIRACLES

"I started seeing shadows and hearing voices calling me all the time"

Page 5



What's happening at

UNIVERSAL

UNIVERSAL NEWS



SCAN ME

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The Strong Prayer of Deliverance

For those who can no longer bear the suffering caused by the afflictions of the soul



"The sadness was so deep it hurt my soul"

(More details on page 6)



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Bishop Edir Macedo

True freedom



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NOT TO BE SOLD

| IN THIS EDITION |

Deliverance

Do you feel so overwhelmed by your problems that you do not know where to turn? Does everything in your life seem to end unhappily? Do you long for peace of mind?

You are not alone. Even if you feel that you have grown so used to suffering that you cannot imagine life being any different, remember this: with God, all things are possible. Through His Word, the Bible shows us that it is possible to live well and put an end to suffering. In fact, the Bible encourages us to turn to God in difficult times:

"I sought the Lord, and He heard me, and delivered me..."
Psalm 34:4

God is ready and willing to deliver us from our troubles. But He will not force Himself into our lives; He waits for us to turn to Him. When we seek guidance in His Word, He gives us everything we need and more to overcome both the battles within and the challenges around us.

At the Universal Church, we believe there is always a solution, no matter how big or impossible your problem may seem. That is why every Friday, we hold special meetings for those facing difficulties they have not been able to resolve, for people who feel trapped in a cycle, blocked from moving forward, or weighed down by burdens they cannot carry anymore.

True deliverance comes only from God. That is why, even if you have done your best to fix things on your own, the results may have been temporary or incomplete. What God offers is not a short-term solution; it is a lasting transformation.

Do not accept a life of suffering any longer. Write down on a piece of paper the areas of your life that feel stuck, whether it is your finances, family, love life, health, spiritual life, or personal growth, and bring it with you to your nearest Universal Church. Together, we will cry out to God for deliverance and declare by faith that every chain of suffering will be broken once and for all.

Event: Deliverance Meetings
Day: Every Friday
Time: 7:30 PM (also at 7 AM, 10 AM, and 4 PM)
Location: Your local Universal Church

| 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



| MESSAGE |

Bishop Edir Macedo

True freedom

Freedom is often misunderstood, yet it is highly valued by people everywhere. Many, in their search for freedom, end up becoming prisoners of something or someone simply because they do not truly understand what it means to be free. True freedom does not mean being able to do whatever you want. It means living without the things you do not want in your life.

A man who thinks freedom means drinking as much as he wants becomes a prisoner of addiction.

A son who believes freedom means disobeying his parents becomes a prisoner of the consequences of his bad decisions.

A husband who thinks freedom means being with many women becomes a prisoner of his endless search for satisfaction.

A wife who believes freedom means saying whatever she wants becomes a prisoner of loneliness.

A young woman who thinks freedom means giving herself to whoever she wants becomes a prisoner of an unwanted pregnancy.

Those who believe freedom means living without regard for God's laws become prisoners of the devil and of suffering.

To be free is essential to every human being, and only the Lord Jesus can make this possible. He said it Himself:



"Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed."
John 8:36

Everything we do not want in our lives—pain, sickness, setbacks, grief, tragedy, sadness, poverty—comes from the evil the devil causes. He loses his power to bring these things only when we live under God's protection and obey His Word in everything. Once we live without the things we do not want, we are free to enjoy the things we do want: peace, health, happiness, harmony, prosperity, and success.

True freedom comes through discipline, because discipline is the most effective way to prevent suffering and maintain order. That is why prisons exist for those who refuse discipline—and, in a way, are built by their own hands.

Obedying God is the only way to be truly free, because it is also the only way to stay free from everything you do not desire.



From the 'black sheep' of the family to a fulfilled woman

to kill myself by taking pills with alcohol. But when I woke up the next day, all I could think was that I wasn't even good enough to take my own life!"

Invitation

"I woke up every day very tired in the morning, but I had to go to work in order to earn money and pay for my schooling. Until one day, I spoke with another young woman and happened to ask her where she was going. That's how I was invited to the Universal Church. I decided to go with her and when I sat, I listened to the meeting, and tears began to fall down my face, because what the Pastor was saying seemed like he knew my life. At the end of the meeting, I went to talk to the Pastor, who guided me and made a strong prayer for me. I left the anxiety I had entered with before the Altar, and left feeling lighter, and that same night I finally managed to sleep a full night!"

I made a commitment of faith to God, started reading the Bible, and surrendered my life into His hands.

I also made a chain of prayer for my deliverance. God set me free from the pain of my past and restored hope within me. Not long after, I was baptized with the Holy Spirit, and today, I can say I lack nothing!"

Transformation

"Today, I'm married and have two daughters. I used to be considered the black sheep of the family, but God turned everything around and used me to help my mother and sisters. Now, they're all at the Universal Church, seeking His presence. Their lives have also been transformed, and my mother is proud to see all her daughters doing well. We're a close family and get along great."

Even financially, God has blessed me so much. I left my banking career to focus on organic farming so I could spend more time with my husband and girls. It wasn't easy to leave something stable for something uncertain, but I put everything in God's hands—and He has blessed me and my business every step of the way."
—Vania

Use your faith and see God's Power this Sunday



Doctors gave him only a one percent chance of survival.

In 2020, Joseph, 65, developed severe pneumonia and COVID-19, leaving 85 percent of his lungs compromised. Doctors gave him only a one percent chance of survival. During a three-hour transfer to a hospital, he stopped at the Universal Church, where he entrusted his life to God. Shortly after arriving at the hospital, he was intubated and remained in critical condition for 20 days, enduring severe complications, including partial paralysis, inability to speak, walk, or eat.

His wife prayed fervently and used blessed water in his care. She also made a vow for his healing during a church campaign. Gradually, Joseph began to recover, and after five months and fifteen days, he was discharged. Today, he is fully healed, living normally, and considered a living miracle.



**RECEIVE THE HEALING
WATERS THIS SUNDAY**
at your nearest
Universal Church



**"I went to the
emergency room
several times."**

About three years ago, I started having dizziness, stomach problems, and a feeling that my whole body was shutting down. I went to the emergency room several times and saw different doctors, but nothing seemed to help. Then, in July of last year, I was out with my daughter when the same thing happened again — everything went black, and I felt nauseous and dizzy. We were at a restaurant, and they had to call the emergency team. After that day, I began drinking the Blessed Water, and I no longer feel dizzy. I make sure to go to church every Sunday, and on Tuesdays, I use the Healing Oil. Thanks be to God!

Other HR HPV
Normal value: Negative
Value
Negative
Other HPV result is for detection of the high-risk types 31, 33, 35, 39, 45, 51, 52, 56, 58, 59, 65 and 68.
This test does not detect HPV low-risk types (e.g. 6, 11, 42, 43, 44) as there is no reported clinical utility for testing of low-risk types
HPV 16
Normal value: Negative
Value
Negative
HPV 18
Normal value: Negative
Value
Negative
Authorizing provider: Sasheni Durrant, NP
Collection date: Jul 18, 2025 1:49 PM
Specimens: Cyt/Viral (Endocervix)
Result date: Jul 23, 2025 1:50 PM
Result status: Final
Resulting lab: NYC HEALTH + HOSPITALS / JACOBI
CLIA: 1400 Pelham Pkwy S



**"I was told me I had the
HPV virus that can
cause cancer."**

I went to the doctor for my routine checkup and pap smear, and the results came back positive. They told me I had the HPV virus that can cause cancer. After that, I started going to church, collecting the Blessed Water, and praying. Every morning, I took three sips of the water in faith. When it was time for my next yearly checkup, I went back to the doctor, and this time all my results came back negative. Here they are — everything is negative! To God be the glory, I am healed in Jesus' name!

— Roxanne Aaron



| MESSAGE |

Bishop Joshua

Eat, Sleep, Repeat

It can seem like every day follows the same routine: wake up, get ready, go to work or school, eat, sleep, repeat. However, what separates these days are the new challenges, problems, and difficulties we face daily. On the surface, it may look like everyone is living the same day, but the person on your right may be battling a disease, and the person on your left may be fighting depression.

And you? What is your battle today? Perhaps you are the one struggling with illness, sadness, insomnia, or family problems. Your situation has become part of your daily routine. You wake up and go to sleep, and the next day that same problem is still there. You are constantly reminded of this struggle that never seems to change.

Fortunately, there is another constant you can rely on, one that has been changing lives for thousands of generations:



“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.” Hebrews 13:8

You can be sure that you are not the first to face this problem, and you will not be the last. But you can be one of the many who have found the solution through the Lord Jesus. You do not have to let hardship become part of your daily life, because things can change.

The same Jesus who healed the sick, gave sight to the blind, raised the dead, and set the oppressed free is still the same today. Now, the constant you must keep alive in your life is faith. Just as Jesus lives, your faith must live, so you can see His power at work in you.

May the God of the Bible bless you!

Set free: No more torments

For a long time, I suffered from severe spiritual attacks. My life was completely devastated. Evil spirits used to torment me at night. Whenever I went to sleep, they would come onto my bed, press me down, and choke me. I tried to shout, but my voice would not come out. I would fight to wake up, trembling with fear.

I could never sleep deeply. I was always half-awake, aware of everything happening around me. I heard voices and footsteps, but when I turned around, no one was there. Sometimes I even saw shadows. These attacks happened not only at night but also during the day, even when I tried to nap.

Because of all this, I started to have suicidal thoughts. At night I would think of ending my life—jumping off a bridge—but in the morning, I would change my mind. I was lonely, angry, and fearful. I couldn't stay alone in the house, and I often turned to drinking beer to escape what I was feeling.

One day, while watching a TV program, I saw a number on the screen and decided to call. The person who answered invited me to the Universal Church. I asked which day was best to come, and they said, “Friday.”

From the very first day I came, I said to myself, “Whatever is tormenting me, it must leave today. I don't care what happens, but it must go!” I was determined to be free.

The pastor encouraged me to take part in the Chain of Prayer and to be faithful without breaking it. I began attending the Friday deliverance services,



and then I started coming on Sundays—and soon, I was going every single day after work.

From that moment on, I have never experienced another spiritual attack. The suicidal thoughts completely disappeared, and I was filled with peace.

During one of the Friday services, the pastor invited those who wanted to receive the Holy Spirit

I was lonely, angry, and fearful. I couldn't stay alone in the house, and I often turned to drinking beer to escape what I was feeling.

to stay behind for a special service. I stayed and sought God with all my heart. One Friday evening, as I was praying and seeking, I received the Holy Spirit. It was the most beautiful experience of my life—I felt peace, joy, and strength like never before.

Today, I am completely free. The nightmares, fear, and suicidal thoughts are gone forever. My heart is filled with peace, and I live to serve God. I thank the Lord for transforming my life and setting me free!

All the glory and honor belong to Him.

Norma Kisson

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

What's happening at Universal

"Nothing and no one could help me!"



Holding a certificate of incapacity in her hands, Sandra saw no future ahead of her—until one day, she heard a radio broadcast that gave her the answer she had been searching for.

Today, Sandra lives a transformed, fulfilled, and peaceful life. She has a blessed marriage and a united family. But things weren't always this way.

"Before coming to the Universal Church, my life was full of suffering in my health, finances, and family. I was an insecure person, filled with complexes, struggling with depression, and dealing with mental health issues. I had seen psychiatrists, psychologists, parapsychologists, and neurologists, but nothing worked. Desperate for help, I even turned to spiritualism and witchcraft, but that only made things worse."

No way out

"One day, after a severe panic attack, I ended up in the hospital and spent the whole night strapped to a gurney. When I was discharged, the doctor told me there was little more that medicine could do for me. He said I would have to take medication for the rest of my life and even issued me a certificate of incapacity—a document that declares someone unable

to manage their own affairs due to a physical or mental condition.

Even though I was outraged, I stayed home for a year, receiving disability benefits. During that time, I got married and had two daughters, but things only got worse. I felt empty, hopeless, and deeply depressed. Nothing and no one could fill the void inside me."

A new life

"One day, I accidentally turned on the radio and heard a Universal Church broadcast. Even though my husband and I had our doubts, we decided to go. Everything the pastor said described exactly what we were going through. That day, after receiving a strong prayer, I was able to sleep peacefully for the first time in a long while—and I finally felt hope.

I kept attending the meetings and started putting the teachings into practice. Over time, I was completely freed from complexes, depression, fear, and panic. Still, I knew I needed the Holy Spirit. I gave my all for my spiritual life and surrendered myself completely to God. When I received the Holy Spirit, I received peace, joy, and the certainty that even with problems, I could overcome them.

My life of suffering and sadness became a story of transformation. Later, my husband and I decided to move abroad to start fresh. We went alone at first, fought through many challenges, and heard many 'no's,' but we persevered. Eventually, we managed to bring our daughters over and open our own dental prosthetics laboratory.

After once being declared incapable of working, today I run my own company!"

—Sandra

18 years in the grip of addiction



When I first came to the Universal Church, I had been addicted to cigarettes for 18 years, smoking about a pack and a half a day. On top of that, I was taking medication for

depression and anxiety, but instead of helping, it only made me feel worse. The emptiness inside me grew, and I became even more anxious because I couldn't find a way to end my suffering.

I was also taking sleeping pills because I struggled with insomnia. My problems just kept piling up, and I had no will to live—no purpose, no direction. I honestly believed my situation was too far gone to ever change. It wasn't until I realized I couldn't go a day without smoking and had lost even the desire to eat that I understood how desperately I needed help.

Freedom

"I was invited to the church and started attending the deliverance meetings. There, I began receiving the support I needed. As I followed the guidance and put the teachings into practice, my life started to change. Little by little, I began to feel disgusted by tobacco and no longer had the urge to smoke.

I started sleeping well again without needing pills. The anxiety and sadness disappeared. I no longer felt depressed, and I stopped taking antidepressants and anxiety medication. Today, I don't take any kind of medication, and I have no desire to smoke. I have peace, joy, and a love for life!"

—Angela



THE YOUTH POWER GROUP PRESENTS...

THE NEXT THREE MONTHS

Come as you are, we won't judge you!



-QUANTERIA

"Before I came to the YPG, I had been in a mental hospital after attempting suicide three times. I was dealing with problems at home, at school, and with friends. When I was first invited to the church, it took me a while to truly accept God. The YPG helped me open up and be myself—no one judged me. Today, I'm a new person, filled with the Holy Spirit. I no longer have suicidal thoughts or family problems, and I've found a reason to live. I'm free to be my true self!"



Transform your life in three months

The next three months can be a turning point for any young person ready to make a change. Start small and stay consistent, set clear goals, stay disciplined, and keep God at the center of your journey. Pray every day, read His Word, and let go of anything holding you back. With faith and focus, a new version of yourself can emerge before the year ends.

@HELP.YPG HELP YPG

NEED TO TALK? 1 888 332 4141



Spiritual problems are much greater and more serious than many people imagine. Some believe these issues only affect a person's mind, but that is far from the truth.

It is a mistake to think that problems should be viewed separately. The body, mind, and soul are all connected, and what affects one will always influence the others.

Take, for example, someone who has spent years looking for a cure for a chronic illness. After so much time and suffering, despair starts to take over. What began as a physical problem eventually affects the person's emotions and mindset. At that point, hope, self-esteem, and willpower start to fade away. The problem becomes deeply rooted in the soul.

Friday: Deliverance prayers

That is why the Universal Church holds Friday meetings dedicated to freeing people from these spiritual burdens that often appear in different forms. These problems can include depression, addictions, unexplained illnesses, insomnia, and more.

When these issues are combined with a lack of faith, they can prevent a person from living a stable life socially, emotionally, and professionally. As a result, the losses only grow worse. That is why it is so important to deal with the problem at its root.

The Universal Church's deliverance meetings are based on the teachings of the Bible. They help people develop faith, perseverance, self-confidence, and the strength to achieve a life filled with peace.

If you are facing problems like these, or know someone who is, we invite you to join a Deliverance Meeting every Friday at 7 AM, 10 AM, 4 PM, or 7 PM. See the back page for the Universal Church location nearest you.

The Strong Prayer of Deliverance



Elma Clauderli had a humble childhood and had to grow up fast. "I really missed my parents, who worked in another city. My two sisters and I lived between our aunts' houses and our grandmother's. Sometimes, we went months without seeing our parents. When we were together, they argued a lot because of my father's drinking and their infidelities," she recalls.

She says that during family gatherings, it was common for adults to give children a sip of alcohol. That is how, at just nine years old, she learned to drink and began doing it secretly. At twelve, Elma, as she is known, moved to another city. "I went to work for a family. I had my own money, but I grew up without any limits, and my desire to drink only got stronger. I didn't realize it then, but I had been suffering from depression and insomnia since I was very young," she says.

Emptiness and addictions

Elma became dependent on medication to help her sleep and stay awake. "Inside, I felt completely empty. The sadness was so deep it hurt my soul. I made friends, but I also gave in more and more to my addictions. I started going to parties, where I tried marijuana and cocaine. The sadness consumed me until I attempted suicide for the first time. That's when I was diagnosed with psychotic depression," she says.

Her uncle and aunt saw how



From a very young age, I suffered from depression.

much she was struggling and invited her to the deliverance meetings at the Universal Church every Friday. But Elma refused. "I didn't want anything to do with church," she says. She remembers working in a place that performed spiritual rituals. "I never made any pacts, but I saw everything they did to destroy families and people. I didn't agree with it, but I still did small things like lighting candles and taking herbal baths. The owner of the place told me I should go to the Universal Church because the spirits had already taken everything from me and that all I had left was my life. I told her, 'Many people sell their souls to the devil. I'll give mine away for free, but I won't go to the Universal Church,'" she recalls.

Trapped in a world of drugs, alcohol, and depression, Elma tried to take her life again. This time, the consequences were serious. Doctors said she would never walk or talk again. "My

aunt and uncle took me into their home and used their faith for me. They prayed for me and anointed me with consecrated oil. After three months, I could talk and walk again," she says.

Soon after her recovery, she finally accepted an invitation from her family and a friend to attend the Universal Church. "When I came, I was still depressed, suffering from panic attacks, addicted to drugs and alcohol. I drank until I passed out. I was angry, resentful toward my parents, and didn't get along with my family," she explains.

A happy life

Elma went through a process of deliverance and was freed from her addictions and depression. Later, she was baptized in water, sealing her decision to start a new life. "My deliverance happened quickly because I came determined. It was all or nothing. I followed every direction I received from the Altar," she says.

During that time, she also realized she needed to forgive her parents and let go of the past. When she released her hurt, she opened her heart to the One who could give her true meaning in life. “Everything changed when I received the Holy Spirit. I was filled with

peace like never before. Today, I live with joy. I love people, even those who once hurt me. I sleep well, I have peace, and I enjoy life,” she concludes.

I got arrested at home and became a huge disappointment to my family.

Fabiano Padovan entered the world of drug trafficking at age 13, and despite being arrested several times, nothing could make him leave that life behind. The financial struggles caused by his parents’ divorce pushed him to look for an easier way out through crime while he was still a teenager. “I was 13 when I met people involved in crime,” he says. Three years later, Fabiano was already managing drug operations.

The first arrest

He was deeply involved in criminal activities when a police operation led to his arrest. “I was arrested at home and became a huge disappointment to my family,” he recalls. Because he was a minor, Fabiano was placed in a juvenile detention center. Fifteen days later, as a first-time offender, he was released on the condition that he perform community service. Still, that experience wasn’t enough to make him want to change.

History repeats itself

Not long after, in another police operation, he was arrested again and sent back to a detention center, where he spent eight months in rehabilitation. “There, I studied and took courses, but nothing changed my mindset about crime. I left detention with more experience in crime and soon formed a drug trafficking partnership,” he says.

Facing death

During one of his escapes from a police raid, Fabiano found himself trapped in a dead end, about to be shot. “Somehow, I managed to escape, and at that moment, I thought, ‘Today I escaped, but tomorrow I won’t.’ That’s when I realized I needed to change my life,” he remembers.



Discovering peace

During his time in detention, Fabiano had already heard about the Universal Social program, a program dedicated to offering spiritual and social support to children and teenagers in rehabilitation. Volunteers who visited the center always invited him to the Universal Church, but he only decided to go much later, encouraged by his mother.

“I went under the influence of drugs. I don’t remember what was said during the meeting, but I remember the peace I felt. I was welcomed,” he says.

A new direction

From that point on, Fabiano began attending church regularly. By following the guidance he received in the meetings and putting his faith into practice, he found freedom from drugs and destructive behavior. “I realized I didn’t need that life anymore, so I

gave it all up. My conversion happened very quickly,” he recalls.

Overcoming doubts

Even after changing, Fabiano struggled with doubts about faith and the Holy Spirit. “I heard that total surrender was necessary to receive Him, but I didn’t know what that meant. It took me some time to understand, but I didn’t give up,” he says.

Everything changed

By persevering in faith, Fabiano finally understood the sacrifices and decisions he needed to make. Then, when he least expected it, he received the Holy Spirit. “My whole life of violence changed. I found a lasting peace that I never imagined I could have,” he concludes.

Today I escaped, but tomorrow I won’t. That’s when I realized I needed to change my life.

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.



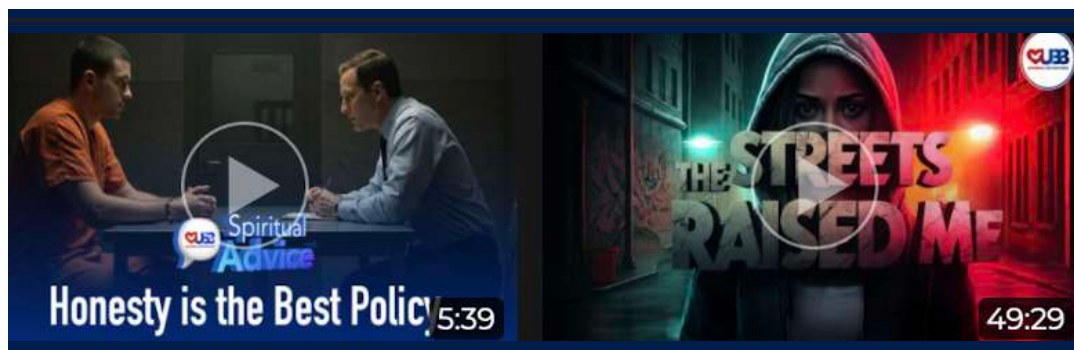
Saturday - Impossible Cases
8am & 12pm

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.



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

How to truly surrender to God

Have you ever wondered what it really means to surrender your life to God? How can we do this, and how do we know when we truly have?

Someone once asked this important question, and to help you understand it clearly, let us think about it together. Many believe that surrendering to God simply means letting go of certain situations, people, or possessions. But how do we surrender to a God we cannot see?

The answer is found in His Word:

"If anyone wants to save his life, he will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it."
Matthew 16:25

The world teaches that success means winning, achieving, and staying strong.

But Jesus gives us a different truth, a beautiful paradox: it is by losing your life that you actually find it. Many people chase pleasure, status, or wealth, but end up losing their peace, their family, and sometimes even themselves.

To surrender your life to God means putting His will above your own and letting His Word guide your choices instead of the world's values or your own desires.

The transformation that comes from surrender:

When I made the decision to surrender to God, I realized my life was no longer mine. From that moment on, every decision, my marriage,

my work, my ministry, began to reflect His guidance. But this kind of surrender is not just for pastors or leaders. Every believer can and should experience it. When you surrender your life to God, you begin living to please Him.

Your inner compass shifts; it no longer points to your own dreams or to what the world expects, but to God's will.

Living surrendered brings freedom:

Living surrendered to God feels like letting go of everything, your job, your family, your possessions, because you understand that everything already belongs to Him. That realization brings peace, freedom, and relief. You no longer carry the weight of trying to control everything; you trust that it is all in God's hands.

A decision of faith:

Ask yourself this: if you only had one minute left to live, what would you still be holding onto?

Surrendering your life to God takes courage and faith. Those who have made this decision can tell you it works. Those who have not must decide: will you keep trying to save your life on your own and lose it, or surrender it now to God and gain it for eternity?

To surrender to God is to live fully, with purpose, peace, and divine direction, knowing your soul is safe in His hands.





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



Zelle

Scan to donate



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Account Number
8784062997



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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Houston TX 77074**

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My story of change



Growing up as a teenager, I got caught up in the streets. I was selling drugs, hustling, and doing a lot of illegal things. By the age of 17, I was already out on the block, rebelling and disobeying my parents. Because of those bad choices, I kept ending up in and out of the system.

It was a hard and painful way to live. I remember the time when I even became homeless. My parents and relatives were disappointed in me, and honestly, I was disappointed in myself.

While living that street life, I came close to losing my life several times. I was stabbed, shot more than ten times, and the last time I was hit in the back and lost a kidney.

Everything bad that happened to me happened in the streets. I could have easily lost my life, but even after all that, I still did not stop being reckless. I went to jail and got out on probation several times, until my choices finally landed me in prison.

Altogether, I spent twenty years behind bars for different arrests and felonies. The hardest time of my life was when I had to serve eleven years straight. I could not believe it. I used to think, "When will they let me go?" or "Will I ever go home again?" Then I came across the UBB, and that was truly a blessing.

I learned that I had to let go of many old habits and behaviors that were holding me back. Once I did that, I began to understand and apply everything I was being taught through the UBB program to my own life.

I took part in IntelliMen, Overcoming Anger, and the UBB services. When I finally released all the baggage and identified the root of my problems, I began to grow from the inside out.

Later, I heard about the Fast of Daniel, a twenty-one-day period to disconnect from secular things and focus only on your relationship with God. I decided to take part in it and give it my all.

During that time, I stayed away from the dayroom, TV, and radio. I spent time listening to spiritual music and meditating on the Word of God. That is when real change began.

Today, I am a completely transformed man, a man of faith, focused, with my eyes on God. I live in peace. I can go to sleep and wake up without fear.

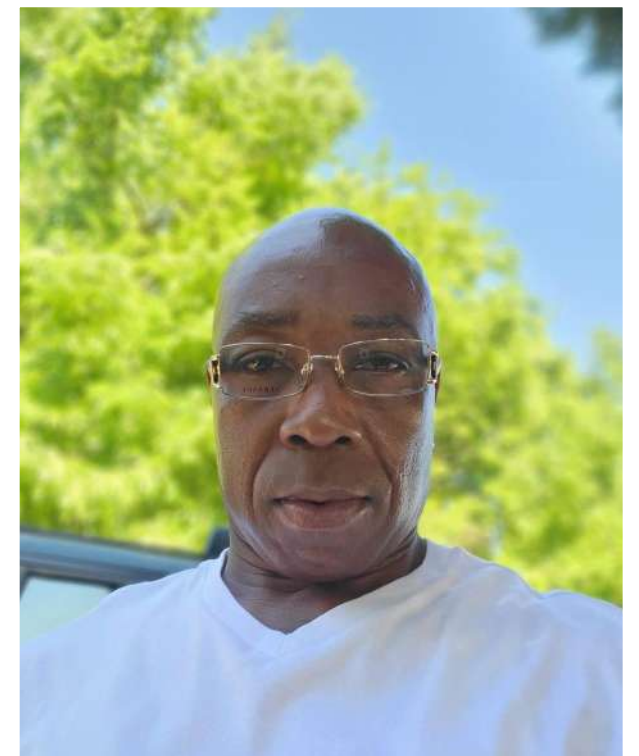
I do not have to look over my shoulder anymore. I am done with the hustling life.

Now, I have started my own business. God has been

blessing me. I have my own home and vehicles. One powerful lesson I have learned is this:

"Say what you mean and mean what you say."

That is one of the best ways to begin real change. If you mean it, then you will do it. And if you



say you want to change, then make sure you truly mean it.



"I never imagined my life would turn out like this. Well... I didn't think I would get caught. I thought I could keep doing the same wrong things, and get away with it. I'm stuck in this place, and stuck in my thoughts, I NEED help. I can't do it anymore....I feel STUCK. Stuck in my past, stuck in my thoughts, stuck with unforgiveness and grudge.

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Your priority defines who you are



Businessman Antonio Lima, 51, has learned the value of being rich with God. He was raised by his mother and faced many challenges growing up. “I had a very difficult childhood. When I was 13, I moved from the big city to a small town. I remember sleeping under a staircase. I got a job as a delivery boy with a bicycle and worked hard in that company until I became a manager.

“I got married and had some success, but I ended up losing everything, including my marriage,” he says. Antonio also accumulated a debt of more than \$200,000. “I got involved in drinking, gambling, prostitution, and many wrong things. I hit rock bottom.”

In that situation, a friend invited him to attend a meeting at the Universal Church. Even though he did not believe it at first, he accepted the invitation and held on to the words he heard: “The pastor said that God could change my story, even if I didn’t believe it. I wanted that change and kept coming to the meetings. The first change happened inside me. After I had an encounter with God, I let go of bad friendships, addictions, and wrong behaviors, and I gave myself completely to Him. Today, I am a transformed man.”

Since then, Antonio says his life has changed in every way. He received God’s guidance to prosper and now lives comfortably. Still, he says nothing compares to having the Holy Spirit: “Today, I am a man of God and completely transformed. My greatest treasure is the Holy Spirit within me.



After many failed attempts to be happy, I met my wife at the church meetings, and now we are happily married. We have the privilege of serving God as volunteers in the church. I thank God that I found the Universal Church with open doors to welcome me.

That’s where my life changed.” His wife, businesswoman Cristiane, also

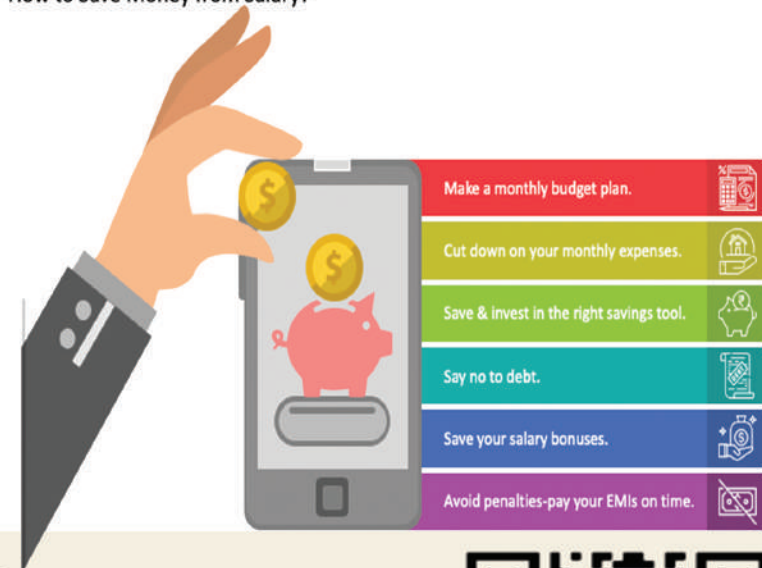
shared her story:

“I came to the Universal Church after my divorce, struggling with inner problems. I heard an invitation to change my life and decided to go to a meeting. From that day on, everything changed inside me. I truly came to know God and surrendered to Him. All my frustration and sadness disappeared.

Today, I am happy and fulfilled. God has given us the best because we chose to place Him first.”

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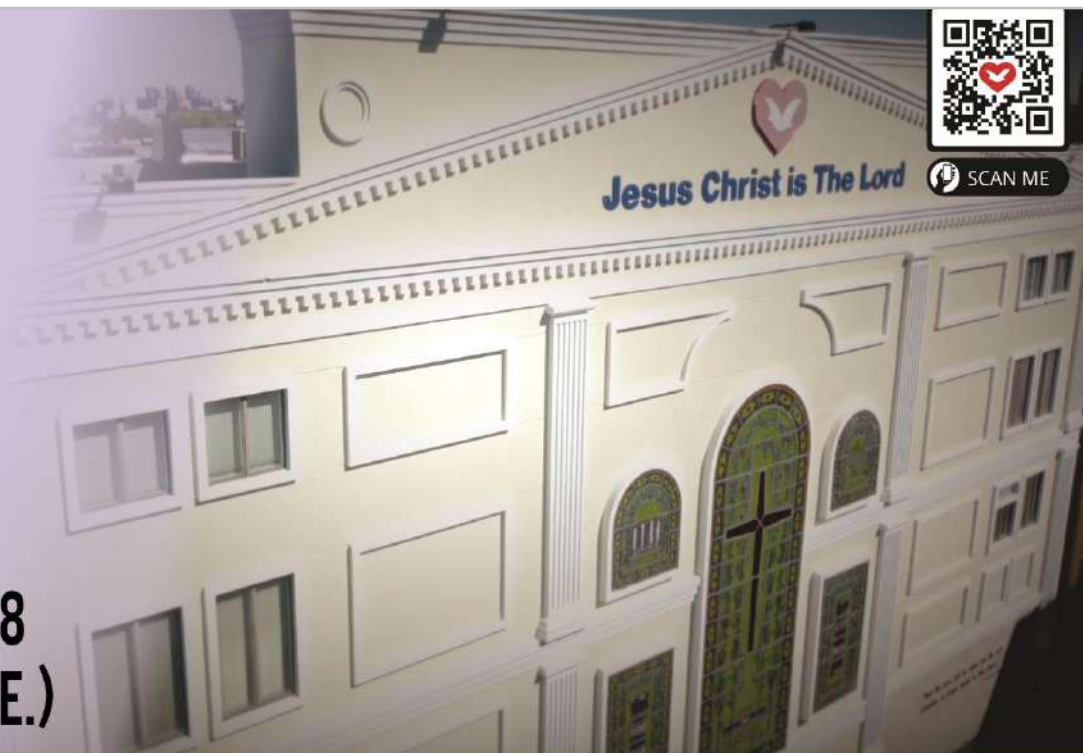
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