
Happy 4th Anniversary!

Press On!

Webzine

What Did I Learn From Tyler Perry?

Focus!



Sunday With Mrs. Ella
My Tribute

Leadership 101:
What Bad Manners Taught Me

Revealing Their Purpose

Joy Clark-Young, Marko Hamlin and Rolanda Pyle

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Life situations and experiences can teach us what we will never learn in school. They also shape and move us into the direction that God wants us to go.

That's what this fourth anniversary issue is about, "Learning From Life Lessons."



One experience reminded me how politeness is so important and I discuss it in "Leadership 101: What Bad Manners Taught Me." When I was a girl, I dreamed of becoming a fashion designer, but God had another plan. Read how He revealed my destiny to me in "My Testimony – Releasing Your Will to God's."

Also, I asked readers to share their purpose in life and how God revealed it to them. And they did! You can read Joy Clark-Young, Marko Hamlin and Rolanda Pyle's stories in this issue.

"Sunday With Mrs. Ella" is my tribute to the usher among ushers who departed this life February 26, 2012. She was the first connection I made when I joined First Baptist Church of Glenarden.

And I won the Black History Blog Contest on Black Bloggers Connect. It was my "About This Time Tomorrow" experience. Look inside for the details!

"These are just a few highlights of this webzine's contents. I pray that they will inspire you to embrace change while pressing toward your destiny. Thank you for sharing in this anniversary issue. Whether you've been a reader for four years or four days, I am grateful.

Also, I created an Easter greeting for you. Copy and paste (<http://smilebox.com/playBlog/4d7a41314e5459794e7a413d0d0a&blogview=true>) onto your browser to view and listen to your personalized card. ■

Phenola Moore

Unless otherwise noted, all scripture is King James Version.

I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Philippians 3:14

We want to hear from you! E-mail your comments to pmoore@pressonwebzine.com. Include your full name, address and telephone number. Submissions may be edited for length and clarity.

And, if you haven't become one of my Facebook and/or Twitter friends, what are you waiting for? Take care. :->

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Sunday With Mrs. Ella

By Phenola Moore

She looks down a long line of people waiting to be seated in the main sanctuary at the First Baptist Church of Glenarden.

With just a hint of a smile, she asks me, “How are you doing, baby?”
I bend down, she gives me a warm embrace and kisses me on the cheek.
I say, ‘Fine, Mrs. Ella. How are you?’
She says, “Fine. Hold on, I’m going to find you a seat.”



Time lapses and just when I am about to give up, the door opens.
I and others in the line hold our breath as she peeks inside the sanctuary to talk to someone.
They let a few people go inside.

She looks out and walks past me down the long line telling us to please be patient.
My heart is now beating a little faster because I’m right at the door.
She motions me to come with her.
I follow as she takes my hand into hers and leads me through the door.

Down the aisle we go.
We stop.
She looks to her right and tells me, “sit right here.”
I say, ‘Thank you.’
She says, “No problem, baby.”

Then she looks past me to a woman on my row and asks, “Whose coat is that?
Are they here?”
The woman shrugs her shoulders.
“You have until praise and worship starts. If they are not here, you are going to have to move it so someone else can sit there.”

She glances down at me.
I smile inwardly.
She turns toward the door and fades into the light. ■

In memory of Mrs. Ella Phelps, former president (14 years) of the Ushers Ministry at First Baptist Church of Glenarden. Gone but never forgotten!

My Testimony: Releasing Your Will to God's

By Phenola Moore



Bishop T.D. Jakes, Pastor, The Potters House, Dallas, Texas said, "It takes most of our life, and sometimes we are good and grown like Abraham, before God shows us our destiny."

Sometimes we think that our life and career paths should be defined by the time we finish college, trade school, begin a military career, or maybe after the first few years of marriage, but God doesn't work like that all the time.

God called Abram (changed his name to Abraham) when he was 99 years old (Genesis 17:5). Now that's way past what we consider a senior citizen.

As a girl, I dreamed of becoming a fashion designer. I can sew and have a knack for fashion. The thought of becoming a writer never entered my mind. I didn't journal and I wasn't an avid reader. Nothing in my past would make anyone think that writing was in my future.

But God! He knew the gift He put inside of me and revealed it to me about seven years ago.

After I joined First Baptist Church of Glenarden, the Holy Spirit prompted me to join the Magazine Ministry (*Vision*) and *Grace Magazine*. In 2008, I was led to start an online magazine, Press On! Webzine. And in 2011, I self-published a collaboration of poems, "Reveal the Real You Poetry Collection on Amazon and started a blog on WordPress.

I didn't start out with a list to do these things, but one thing led to another.

What calling are you either denying or ignoring because it isn't in your plans? Release your will to God's and walk by faith. ■

Meditation:

"Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done." Luke 22:42

Revealing Their Purpose

By Phenola Moore

In February, I asked readers to share their purpose in life and how God revealed it to them. I received great testimonies and I've included Joy Clark-Young, Marko Hamlin and Rolanda Pyle's stories.

JOY CLARK-YOUNG

Early in life, Joy Clark-Young realized her destiny was to inspire and uplift others. She did this by becoming a foster and adoptive mother, and starting Simple Heart Treasurers, LLC (www.simple-heart-treasures.com) where she inspires and uplifts others through scripture, postcards, balloons, and other special items. She also visits nursing homes, hospitals, foster group homes, and battered women shelters.

In 1992, she became a single mom. Later, she decided to become a foster/adoptive mom to give another child love and care, as well as provide her daughter a sibling. To date, she has fostered more than 20 children.

Clark-Young was devastated when her mother died July 4, 2000. Despite her faith and belief in God, she was furious with Him.

She said, "It was so unfair. I could not understand why God took my mom a day before I arrived. I wasn't allowed to be there by her side or to say goodbye one last time."

She lost her zest for life until her mother came to her in a dream on her birthday and reassured her that all was well. She also attended a women's ministry meeting at a friend's church where the Word of God healed her from her grief. Clark-Young said, "I wish someone had blessed me with a scripture during my time of sorrow instead of spoken words."

Clark-Young, a resident of Maryland, is married to Robert Young, Sr., and has four children: Frances, 20, Naysa, 9, and adopted twins, Taylor and Trinity, 3. She was introduced to *Press On! Webzine* through Facebook and has been a reader for almost six months. ►



Joy Clark-Young

Marko Hamlin

“I was taken from my mother at age four because of alcoholism and placed into the foster care system,” said Marko Hamlin. “It was there that I experienced physical and sexual abuse. In 2009, I realized my destiny was to share my testimony when I revealed my sexual abuse to another person and he had experienced the same things.”

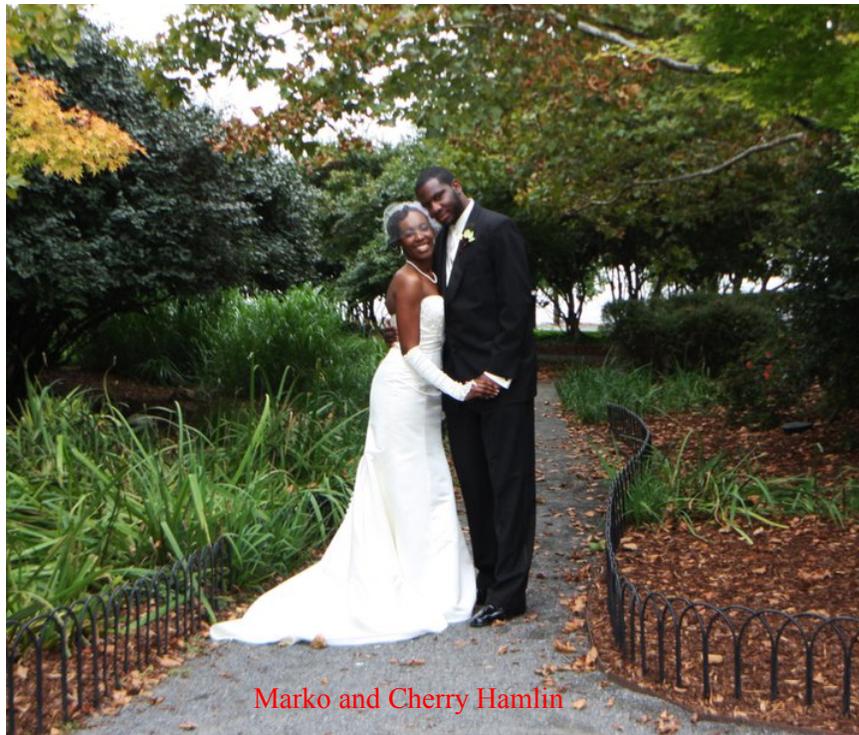
But it wasn't until Pastor John K. Jenkins, Sr., First Baptist Church of Glenarden, announced the 2012 church theme, “Moving Forward” (Philippians 3:14), that Hamlin decided it was time to share his story with the world.

“God has given me a vision and I just want Him to use me for His glory,” says Hamlin.

He is writing a book and reaching out to different organizations to bring awareness to child abuse.

Coming to the decision to share his testimony wasn't easy. “I did not want to face my past, but in order for me to move forward and for others to heal, I have to,” he said.

Hamlin, his wife, Cherry, and four-year-old daughter, Sanai, reside in Maryland. He discovered *Press On! Webzine* through Facebook and has been a reader for about a year. ►



Revealing Their Purpose (continued from page 7)

Rolanda Pyle

“I always befriended the ‘underdog’ in the class,” said Rolanda Pyle. “The one nobody liked or everyone picked on.”

In school, she was introverted and very shy so she always liked writing over speaking. She realized she had a gift for writing when her seventh grade English teacher told her that she was a good creative writer.

At first she wanted to be a teacher, but her career evolved into social work because she was always helping and counseling someone. And she always wanted to write to inspire and encourage others.

These gifts and passions evolved into Pyle becoming a writer and social worker. She is the author and self-publisher of "Finally" and "Beneath His Everlasting Wings" through Ro Ro's Rainbow Communications (www.rosorainbowcommunications.com). Pyle worked in child welfare for years in foster care and preventive services.

She was a caseworker, volunteer coordinator, program supervisor, and program director. And worked at the New York City Department for the Aging as the director of the Grandparent Resource Center and at the Brookdale Foundation Group as the associate director of the Relatives as Parents Program (RAPP).

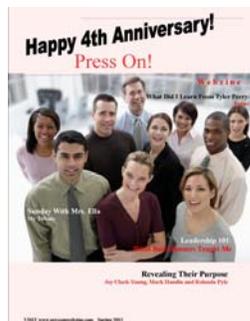
Sometimes she faces opposition with life issues and challenges. As an author, she often hears “no” from publishers, which is hard but she presses on because she knows this is her calling.

Rolanda Pyle is single and resides in New Jersey. A friend introduced her to *Press On! Webzine* two years ago. ■



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Leadership 101: What Bad Manners Taught Me

By Phenola Moore

A few years ago, I boarded the church van and sat in the vacant seat next to one of the associate ministers. I said good evening and tried to make small talk, to no avail. She looked me up and down, grunted, turned her head toward the window, and looked out it the entire ride.

Needless to say, this experience left me with a bad impression of that person. And for a while, I would look the other way when she praised God during the church service. Eventually, after much prayer, I got over it. LOL

To me, her attitude was nasty and if I had been an unbeliever or a new convert, she may have turned me off from God because His love is shown through His people.

As leaders, we should be mindful of how we treat others. Do we intentionally or unintentionally treat others like that? You know, smooching up to fellow leaders while passing right by and/or ignoring those we lead.

Good manners never go out of style because by showing them, we acknowledge that everyone is important. It also makes it easier to lead the people under our leadership and creates a lasting impression on others.

- Everyone is Important – Whether someone is a billionaire or homeless, they are important and worth a smile, handshake or friendly conversation.

- Easy Leadership – Good manners will soften the hearts of people you lead because it's hard to follow someone who is abrupt, unfriendly and has other unattractive traits.

Public Service Announcement: If you feel your good manners have somehow escaped you, you may be burnt out and need to slow down.

- Lasting Impression – Good manners can make a lasting impression. The way President Barack Obama conducted himself during his presidential campaign was an example of that. Yes, money funded his campaign and votes got him elected, but it was making people feel special, listening to the views of others, etc., that won a lot of people over and eventually got him into the White House.

Therefore, don't allow your position to dismiss the good manners you were taught as a child. ■

Meditation:

“Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.” Psalm 1:1



What Did I Learn From Tyler Perry? Focus!

By Phenola Moore

“When something is for you, there is a feeling deep down inside that will not allow you to let it go,” said Tyler Perry. “It will keep you going when you can’t keep yourself going.”

During the summer of 2011, the Holy Spirit told me there were some things that I needed to let go because they were no longer a part of my journey. Immediately, I knew He was right because when God is getting ready to move something or someone out of my life, He takes the desire/passion away from me.

God knew I needed to focus, but distractions, although they were good things and people, were taking me off course.

A few weeks ago, Perry sent me an e-mail titled, “How to be Successful,” and in it he said we should narrow our focus down to one thing/idea, make it our priority and stick with it.

- Focus on One Thing – How often do we have a bucket list of things we want to do and try to accomplish them all at one time? Then never make headway on one thing. Focus on that one thing that you are destined to do and God will add to it.
- Make “It” Your Priority – Stick with it no matter what people say. Perry said it took years for his plays to make headway, but he stuck with it because he knew it was what God called him to do.
- Stick With It – Hard work, coupled with the grace of God, works. Perry attributes his success to God’s grace “because like a farmer, we plant seeds (pass out business cards, go on auditions, etc.) all day. All you

can do is plant the seed and water it. But only God can give the increase.”

He said he focused on one area (plays) and spent all his energy on it. The other projects came afterwards.

To hear his remarks, copy and paste (<http://tylerperry.com/scrapbook/video/88/>) onto your browser. ■

Meditation:

“And the LORD answered me, and said, write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it.” Habakkuk 2:2

Information on Press On! Webzine’s Website — www.pressonwebzine.com

AVON — Avon Independent Sales Representative — Click on www.youravon.com/pmoore to view the latest brochure and to order.

Blog — www.pressonwebzine.wordpress.com

Phenola Moore’s Store — Log on www.pressonwebzine.com and click on “Phenola Moore’s Store” to view items and to order products that are available on Amazon. We have everything from apparel and accessories to video games. Thank you.

Reveal the Real You Poetry Collection — Available for \$2.99 on www.amazon.com.

About This Time Tomorrow

By Phenola Moore

When I entered the Black Bloggers Connect 2012 Black History Month Blogging Contest, I knew the winners would be announced on February 27th. I thought I would learn who won either that morning or early afternoon. As evening set, I assumed they wouldn't announce the winner until the next day because it was getting late.

After 8 p.m, I logged onto my Facebook page and my photo jumped out at me with the words, "Phenola Moore Wins!" Black Bloggers had announced the winner – ME – on their Facebook page.

I screamed with excitement and hugged everybody in the room. Later, I remembered the words Pastor John Jenkins, Sr., First Baptist Church of Glenarden, spoke at communion service the night before. He predicted that "about this time tomorrow" something special would happen in the life of someone in the service.

Communion service begins at 6:30 p.m., and it was around 8 p.m. that Pastor Jenkins uttered those prophetic words.

Receiving the announcement that I won the contest so late in the day was my "about this time tomorrow" experience. Below is the announcement and link where you can click on and read the blog. Copy and paste (www.blackbloggersconnect.com/blogs/203/988/black-history-month-entry-i-am) to read. And thank you to those who took the time to "like" the blog. ■

Announcement Posted on Black Bloggers Connect
(www.blackbloggersconnect.com)

Phenola Moore Wins!!!

Posted by [admin](#) - Mon at 8:13 PM

Congratulations to [Phenola Moore](#) for winning the BBC 2012 Black History Month Blogging Contest. She received an overall total of 100 Facebook likes, BBC likes and comments. Phenola has won a \$100 Visa Gift Card from Black Bloggers Connect. Congratulations Phenola!

[April Byrd](#), the runner up with 51 likes and comments overall, will receive a \$50 Visa Gift Card as well. (We added a runner-up prize as a result of the overwhelming response to April's entries). Congratulations April!

[Brittany Johnson](#) has won the random drawing for the Special Collector's Edition of *Ebony Magazine*, featuring the stars of Red Tails. Congratulations Brittany!

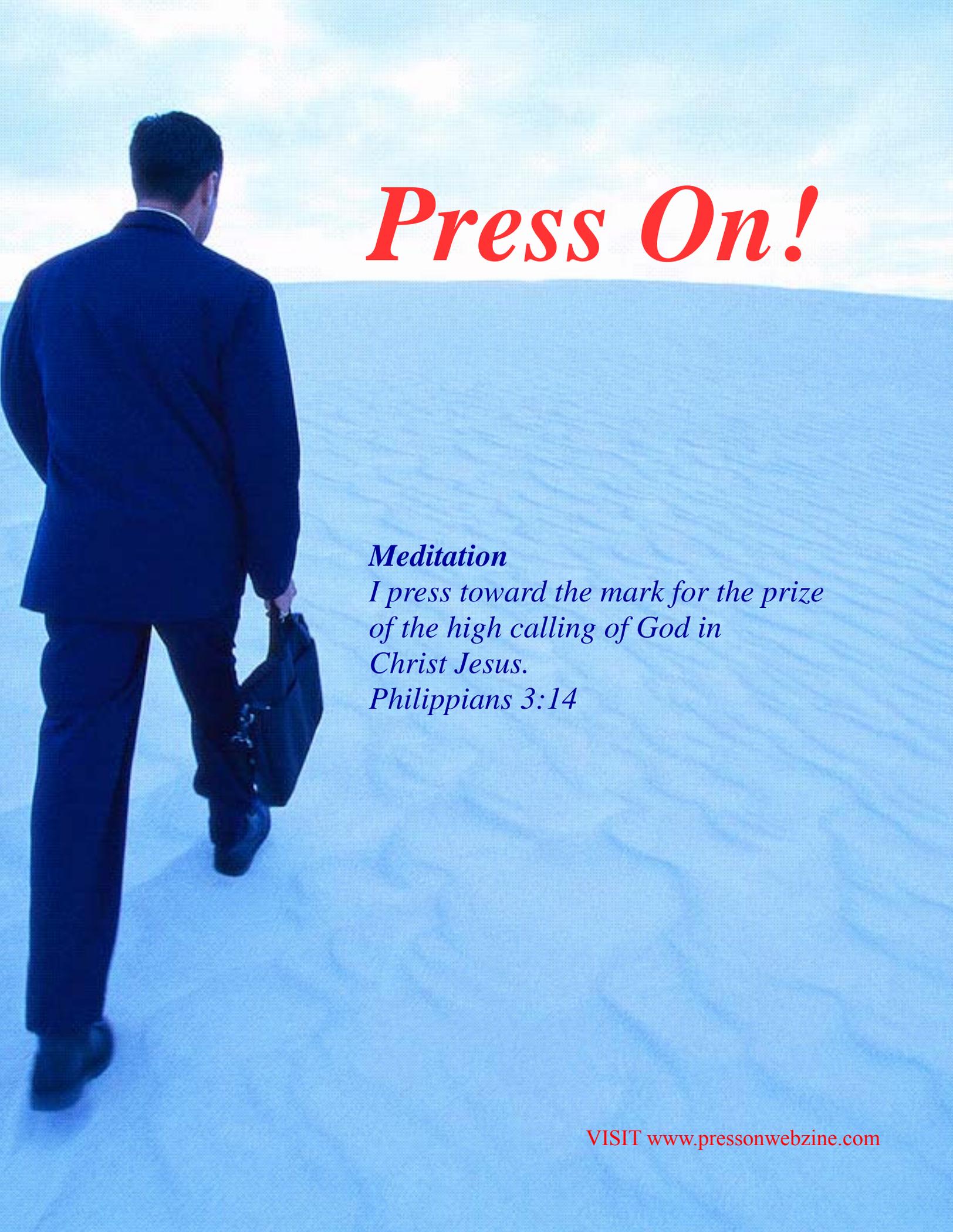
Black Bloggers Connect wishes to honor all of the participants that helped us celebrate Black History Month 2012. Let the circle be unbroken.

Sincerely, Black Bloggers Connect Staff

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Press On!

Meditation

*I press toward the mark for the prize
of the high calling of God in
Christ Jesus.*

Philippians 3:14

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