

Series: Living Under God Covenant with Gladness
Discernment, Part III

Heavenly Father,

Praying for families to help people and families overcome grudges and broken relationships

Heal broken relationships to let them become better family members to other family members that may feel neglect and uncaring from them

Heal relationships with families do people that are homeless can restore relationships with families

We are approaching Thanksgiving again this year and guide families to appreciate and be thankful for their families and friends that they have.

Guide us and help us show more support for people that do not have families to rely on and go to for help in hard and tough economic times.

Thank you for what you have given us in trouble economic times from your kingdom without help from family and friends

Thank you for waking us up this morning for another day on earth

Thank you for feeding us with the food we eat and put in our bodies daily because we need to bless families that are struggling to buy food and have to eat at soup kitchens daily.

Bless families and individuals that have to spend time living out of homeless shelters and not with their families while we are approaching the holiday season this year.

In Jesus name, Amen

I want to start off telling you a story about my mother's side of the family and other family members. My mother says she prays for me and my sister. I know as a man of God and Bishop that her prayers do not reach me or my sister because my mother still sin and lives in sin. It is stuff she still needs to repent for from her past that I have been finding out that she has been dishonest about. That is 100% fact. She only married my step father because my grandmother's side of the family told her too and that is 100% fact and the truth. I was told at a lecture that my mother did not love my step father back then and only married him because my grandmother told her too. My mother has to repent that because she was truthful about her feelings at the age of 19. My mother committed a sin because people are supposed to save themselves and remain as a virgin until they get married to a person of the opposite sex. Then she was supposed to marry that man or woman that got them pregnant, so the father can have the opportunity to take more responsibility. My mother did not get my biological time to get his own permanent housing and get his life together before letting my grandmother force her to marry my step father. That is another 100% fact. Being a Christian is more than just praying to God. People say my step sister and I look just like us and people say we look like we could have been twins if we were born by the same mother. You have to live obedient to God and the Holy Spirit. I know there is no discernment among my family members because they are 100% still sinful and act like they love the world more than God. My grandmother on my mother's side of the family is still sinful and still a churchgoer. She has been untruthful about what she put my mother in while she was pregnant with me in the womb. There are too many witnesses in the family and the biological father side of the family says she kicked her out of the house while she was pregnant with me in the womb and made decisions for her. She is being dishonest saying she did not do that and trying to flip the story around like she did no wrong doing. My mother's side of the family have been distant from each other lately. No one talks to each other like that because it seems like it has been a huge grudge in the family. No one talks to each other like that like a family supposed to. I know my family

members are not godly and cheerful to the poor and homelessness because my step father told me a long time ago trying to give me that negative talk about me helping the poor and homeless as a spiritual and caring person. My step father is trying to convert me to be a more uncaring person and be a sinner to the world. I ignored talks and advice like that he tried to tell me because it let me know people are takers and care more for themselves and not loving and helping others in need. I really do not like to be around family for Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday no more because my family like to do is mostly gossip about people on the holidays talked about negatively including their co-workers on their jobs. My biological father is the only family that is spiritual because they are churchgoers and pay tithes and offerings in church. Only people on my biological father's side of the family who are cheerful givers in church are my aunt and relatives that live on the southside of Chicago on the block of 114th and Church Street.

“Dear friends, do not believe everyone who claims to speak by the Spirit. You must test them to see if the spirit they have comes from God. For there are many false prophets in the world. This is how we know if they have the Spirit of God: If a person claiming to be a prophet^[a] acknowledges that Jesus Christ came in a real body, that person has the Spirit of God. But if someone claims to be a prophet and does not acknowledge the truth about Jesus, that person is not from God. Such a person has the spirit of the Antichrist, which you heard is coming into the world and indeed is already here.”-1 John 4:1-3

When I read 1 Peter 4:1-3, I think about times when I was homeless and people were talking about God and the Holy Spirit like they were loyal and obedient to God. I noticed those people talk about God and act so ungodly and wicked towards others. That is why I say homeless people at homeless shelters really need to find themselves spiritually and stop relying on their world as their source and listening to idolatry. A real Christian and disciples do not pass up blessings that God gives them. It is what Rev. Charlie Dates said last Sunday during service about God passing on blessings that he gave you on to someone else that will benefit them. That is the wrong approach to say you are a Godly person living for God and let blessings that are given to them and want to just pass them up to go to someone else from the throne in heaven. Turn to the person next to you and say do not pass up your blessings from God. When I noticed that during the times I spent in and out of homelessness, I never believed in every Godly spirit. As a man of God, I believe God works for me to get me away from the homelessness situations like he is doing now from the throne in heaven. I am very observant towards other people that say they are Godly people and automatically not Godly people. I do not have to test people's spirit to God. I just easily know that they are not Godly based on myself being attention-detail and observant to see how they act and see if they are a Godly person. I am an attention to detail person. I know people that are not a person of God and live Godly because they do not live obedient to God, act envious towards others, sinful. I know people are not people of God and just show they are Godly that like to act envious, hate to hear the truth and like to tear down the truth and people try to tell them. Turn to the person next to you and say lose the antichrist among yourself.

My mother's side of the family does not honor Gaatians 6:2 because they do not bear each other's burdens when other family members need financial help in tough and bad economic times. I heard homeless people say that about their families since I lived in and out of homelessness since 2011 that their families let them live the struggle. I like what churches like Pastor Barclay of Progressive Beulah Pentecostal

Church in Chicago do for the homeless that stay at Pacific Garden Mission that feed and offer them clothing, give them an opportunity to shower. I support what Fourth Presbyterian Church in Chicago does for the homeless and needy because they offer shower ministry for the homeless, food service ministry to feed the homeless and needy every week in Chicago. I used to volunteer for their Meals Ministry in 2011 before I decided to join Catholic Charities Junior Board in Chicago. I still hold that as a cloud over my head as an only unforgiveness that I have from my past because my mother and step father let me struggle to get my higher education at DePaul in 2011 and did not want to cosign for an outside student loan so I can complete my college education. I had to do what I had to do to complete my higher education without my family members' help. My mother and step father decided to get an outside student loan for my sister's higher education and she ended up failing all her classes in Indiana and lost her financial aid after being on probation after failing another semester. My mother and step father have to pay back that student loan money back after she failed all her classes as an undergraduate student in Indiana. Honestly, I succeeded longer in my higher education than her with electability on Student Government at DePaul University and City Colleges of Chicago-Malcolm X College. My resume is longer than hers because my resume has a set theme to it that only has my religious and social service background in the nonprofit sector.

Ways to strengthen families in this nation and our communities

1. Start being more caring for one another because I agree with Pacific Garden Mission employee in 2011 name Mr. Freeman always told homeless men to encourage them to call their families and see about going to hack with their families to get out of Pacific Garden Mission. Families need to start caring for their loved ones that are homeless and start taking them in and supporting them while they are down on their luck in the economy. Families need to be caring and love one another and will not let their loved ones live in a shelter to get themselves together. Families need to be caring for their homeless loved ones that have mental health and try to help them get the help they need to overcome their mental health and depression.
2. Stop being heartless towards others in the family. Families need to stop acting like they love their family members and start loving their family with whole heart. Families need to have more lovingkindness towards one another like it says in Galatians while it talks about living with the fruit of the spirit in our life. I always thought that way in the household when I was a child when I felt like my sister had more attention and support than me, like my higher education.
3. Stop the neglect in families because you see some families being hateful to others if they find out anything and secrets that they may not like about them. It is some homeless people that are gay and LGBTQ that have families that do not accept them because they found out their LGBTQ.

"Share each other's burdens, and in this way obey the law of Christ."-Galatians 6:2

"As iron sharpens iron, so a friend sharpens a friend."-Proverbs 27:17

Giving Time:

"Remember, the man who plants only a few seeds will not have much grain to gather. The man who plants many seeds will have much grain to gather. Each man should give as he has decided in his heart. He

should not give, wishing he could keep it. Or he should not give if he feels he has to give. God loves a man who gives because he wants to give. God can give you all you need. He will give you more than enough. You will have everything you need for yourselves. And you will have enough left over to give when there is a need.”-2 Corinthians 9:6-8 (NLT)

When I live by the Scripture daily and all the cheerful giving that I did in communities in cities where I lived, I have donated my own personal money to the poor as SSI income has been my only income. God always comes through for me to bless me after I give to the poor and homeless in Chicago, Dubuque, Houston, Louisville, Detroit, Flint, Cleveland and Atlanta. God has not really blessed me that much in Atlanta. It seems like bad economic situations always happen to me in Atlanta like the devil attacks me too much in Atlanta. I may not be wealthy in having lots of money, but I am wealthy in the spirit of God. When I was living in and out of homelessness since 2011, it seems like I always got blessings from God after I give in church and help the poor. I know I prosper spiritually after I give and help the poor. Before I was born again, God did not help me at all in my life because I cared mostly for myself years ago. I really never had to live off the government for nothing in my life except for SNAP, Medicaid and SSI. I believe God will truly bless me when I move back to Detroit because I will not be living SSI income any more and will start paying rent like other apartment renters and homeowners. I will not have to live on SNAP either because I can buy groceries like other Americans and go to food pantries for food for the household. God has blessed me when my family was not able to be in my life and let me live and out of homelessness since 2011. I am grateful for the little help that I was able to get by. As a man of God and Bishop of the congregation, I still pray for my family because my family members are still sinful and live in sin and idolatry. I am still for my family because my family members still live in bondage. I pray for my family in hope for everyone to come together and stop hating each other with negative gossip. I pray for my family to become more Godly and live obedient to God before they unexpectedly leave this earth. When I think about 2 Corinthians 9:6-8, I think about people that do pay offerings in church or while they watch the church service online. When people pay little for offering to God, they will receive little blessings and breakthroughs in your life. When a Christian and disciple pay very little tithes and offerings to church very little during Bible study services and Sunday services every week, you will continue to receive little blessings in your life every week. That is why when my sermons from Bible study are posted on social media every week, I encourage people that are inspired by my sermons to pay very little every week. It is good to be blessed by God very little than not at all. We want to be blessed with God more than a little percentage of the time every week. That is why I ask and encourage people to donate \$1 or \$5 in an offering to the church every Bible study services and Sunday services so they can be receiving some blessings from God in their life if it is very little each time you pay an offering to the church. It will help your heart grow stronger as a mustard seed to heaven. When you pay very little to a church for tithes and offering, God will give you very little help you need spiritually. When you pay more to a church for tithes and offering, God will bless and help what you need a whole lot in your life. People that do not have faith in God and live as sinners will not receive any blessings and breakthroughs from God. Rev. James Meeks used to repeat the same thing when I was going to Salem Baptist Church of Chicago in 2013 to 2015. I need more help from the community because I was able to donate very little to the church out of my personal finances as a person that lives on SSI income. I like to get off SSI income and live on a livable salary from the church. I was able to give a total of \$1,500 or less to the church out of my SSI income since 2014. I do not get help and financial support from family because they never heard and attended any of my congregation church services to hear me preach in the pulpit since 2014. I believe my family

members are not 100% godly and not Godly at all. My family members still live in sin and the flesh outside of church, so I have to do what I can for the church financially and economically since 2014. I like the church revenue to match the growing congregation and I need help from members and people in the community for financial support for the church. My biological father's side of the family is the only family member that is spiritual but they have too much going on in their lives, but I still have support from my biological father's side of the family. They are not able to give to church because they are financially squeezed with their personal finances and some are unemployed and retired with SSA. I got my strength spiritually and committed to God from that side for teaching me the Bible, Christ Jesus, attended Bible study and Sunday school, discipleship, stewardship and obedience to God. With my SSI income that I am only able to pay little offering to the church In Detroit. 98% of tithes and offerings still come from members and visitors, but I still pay and give very little of my SSI income to the church to help pay for operations, programs and community development initiatives. You can go to the church website and view our income statements, profit and loss statements, balance sheets and other financial records at LJ.CBC.yolasite.com. I want to let people know starting on Wednesday of this week that the church will be able to get a PO box for the church in Detroit to receive donations made by check, cashiers check or money order made out to Lord Jesus Christ Community Baptist Church. I will get the information for the PO Box in Detroit and be able to get that information to pass on to you all. As bishop and man of God, I keep church and state on my mind that try not to get government and politicians financial support unless they are willing to support the church personally out of their own personal wealth and financially and economically.

I am refreshed with a pure and good heart when I give back to the community, pay tithes and offerings in church and help the poor out of my personal income. I am asking you to follow my example to become a cheerful giver to the Lord and see the results you will receive from your strong faith and obedience to God in your life going forward. I ask you to support our ministries by donating either \$1, \$10, \$25, \$50, \$100, \$250, \$500, \$1000. You can donate your tithe and offering to the link below. Wherever you are and looking to make an offering and looking for a church home. When I was living in Chicago, I gave homeless men and women money for food daily to avoid those homeless men and women dealing with food insecurity. I gave homeless men and women on CTA trains leftover food. When I lived in Detroit for a long time, I provided food and money to the homeless out of my own personal money. When I lived in Louisville for a short period of time, I gave the homeless and poor \$50 of my own personal money to help them out economically and financially. In Cleveland, I donated over \$60 to the homeless on the streets to help them living in poverty and Homelessness. I gave so much money to churches for tithes and offerings over the years to continue my strong cheerful giving to the Lord. It is companies and organizations that help the church financially and economically, but they usually offer a fee for their services and we are not able to pay those fees based on a tight and stressful budget from our growing congregation.