

OCTOBER 2026

@ THE LAND

The
Last
Quarter



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PASTOR'S PAGE



Where *Dreaming* Comes True!

As we make ready to finish this last quarter of 2026, I encourage you to finish strong. There are so many things happening in life and we must keep the Faith. It's not easy, but what we are working towards will have a lasting impression. Here are message notes from one of the sermons preached in the series, Where Dreaming Comes True!

Faith Through the Fire *Daniel 3:13-25 Message*

Unveiling-Be careful of what you erect in your life. Many of us allow the wrong things to be erected and built and we have allowed them to become the things that we worship, which have turned us away from God.

God does not show up until we make a stand for Him!
-Could it be that God has not shown up in your life because you have not made a Stand for Him?

***I Stand for Him When...**

1. Saying my Prayers.
2. I read my Word.
3. Telling others about Him.
4. Bringing others to church.
5. Trusting God in tithing.
6. Serving VOLUNTARILY!
7. Doing for Him verses looking for recognition of what I have done.
8. Being the Best version of myself.
9. Being there for others!
10. Allowing people to see Him through me!

A Revealing ...

1. God allows the Fire to prove Life gets Hot. (The men around the Fire were burned.)
2. God allows you to go in the Fire to reveal who He is. (It's not even about you; it's about his keeping Power.)
3. God is revealing things about the people around you. (They snitched on them.)
4. God is revealing things about You. (Our God is able, but even if he doesn't, we will not serve ur gods.) *Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him (Job 13:15)*

"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him."
1 John 2 :15 KJV

The small test prepares you for the large tests. They didn't eat the king's meat in Chapter 1. Interpreted the Kings Dream in Chapter 2.

But mostly God is revealing things about Himself.
There are 4 men, loosed. Walking in the fire. The Fire is only allowed to Burn what has them Bound!

Amazed by His Grace,
Pastor Elliot R. Shelton, Sr.



PASTOR ELLIOT SHELTON

PASTOR APPRECIATION *Celebration*

SUNDAY
**OCTOBER
4TH**
@10:00 AM

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SUPER SHEROE AGENT

Brooklynn Smith *The Mind Master*

"She Thinks It. She Sees It. She Does It."

MY SUPERPOWER WISHLIST...

HYPER-INTELLIGENCE:

Looking at something and instantly understanding or knowing how to solve the problem. This would help me since I take honors/ap classes that introduce difficult concepts.

PERFECT REFLEXES:

My body reacting before I can think about it. This would help me since I'm a cheerleader and I need to be quick on my feet to prevent stunts from falling. Even outside of cheer I could prevent everyday accidents from happening.

SUPER INTUITION:

Knowing exactly if a situation or person is meant for you or not. This would help me since I find myself in lots of situations where I have to make big decisions like friendships, sports, and even classes. Since I don't pick up on hints fast, this could help me figure out what I need to do.

#GIRLPOWER

PROMISE LAND CHURCH

FALL FESTIVAL

SUNDAY
OCTOBER 25TH
FOLLOWING WORSHIP SERVICE

FRIENDLY COSTUMES ARE WELCOME!

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JOIN US FOR
CHRISTMAS SERVICE

DECEMBER 20TH
@ 10:00 AM

Featuring our Youth & Children

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PROMISE LAND CHURCH

LEADING LADY CHRONICLES



TRUST *The* PROCESS

By Devoria Branch

For those who may not know me, I am a woman who has learned that my identity is much bigger than any title, degree, job, or accomplishment. My journey has taken me through technology, cybersecurity, healthcare administration, education, and entrepreneurship, and each chapter has taught me something different about myself. I hold a bachelor's degree in Healthcare Administration with a minor in Business Administration and a master's degree in Computer Information Systems/Cybersecurity. I have also worked in business systems analysis, cybersecurity, IT quality assurance, tutoring, and education. But behind all those accomplishments is a woman who is resilient, compassionate, ambitious, and still growing. I have experienced career changes, setbacks, uncertainty, and moments when I had to figure things out as I went. Those experiences have taught me that success isn't always about having everything perfectly planned. Sometimes it is about having the courage to keep moving when you don't know exactly where the road will lead.

At my core, I am someone who wants to make an impact. Whether I'm working in technology, education, helping someone learn, building a business, or simply encouraging another person, I want my work to have purpose. I enjoy experiences that allow me to be creative and enjoy life. I love traveling, hanging with my family and friends, giving back to the community, discovering new places, attending and creating events, fashion, line dancing, singing, and anything that allows me to express my personality and creativity. I also enjoy entrepreneurship and coming up with ideas. I'm naturally someone who thinks about how things can be created, improved, or turned into something bigger. Planning events and developing business ideas gives me an opportunity to combine creativity with strategy. I also value quiet time. Life can get busy, so having moments to reset, reflect, pray, and simply enjoy myself is important to me. I'm learning that rest is just as important as productivity. My family and the people who have been part of my journey

have played an important role in shaping who I am. Every person who has encouraged me, challenged me, supported me, or even crossed my path during a difficult season has contributed something to my growth. I've learned that you don't become the woman you are completely on your own. There are people who

help you recognize your strength when you can't see it for yourself. There are also people and experiences that teach you what you will and will not accept, what matters to you, and the kind of woman you want to become. Those relationships have helped me develop a deeper appreciation for family, genuine support, compassion, and having people around you who want to see you win. I had to say something about my nephew Kyngsley. My nephew holds a very special place in my heart. He reminds me of the importance of family, love, and being present for the people who matter most. Watching him grow and develop his own personality has been such a blessing. He also motivates me to be an example of the kind of person I hope he can look up to, someone who works hard, believes in herself, and never gives up on her dreams. Being his aunt is one of those roles that doesn't come with a job title or degree, but it means so much

to me. I want him to know that he is loved, supported, and capable of becoming anything he puts his mind to.

There are two women who have had a profound influence on the woman I am today: my mom and my grandmother. They have both inspired me in different ways and have shown me the importance of strength, resilience, love, and perseverance. My grandmother taught me the value of family, faith, and having strength even when life isn't easy. Her life and the way she carried herself showed me that a woman can face challenges while still maintaining grace, dignity, and compassion. She helped shape my understanding of what it means to be a strong woman. My mom has also been one of my greatest sources of inspiration. Watching her navigate life, overcome challenges, and continue to push forward taught me not to give up when things don't go according to plan. She has encouraged me to believe in myself and to pursue my goals, even



when the path isn't always clear. Both women have contributed to the foundation of who I am. Their examples remind me that strength isn't about never struggling; it's about continuing to move forward. Because of them, I understand the importance of becoming a woman who not only succeeds for herself but also inspires and empowers the women who come after her.

One of my greatest challenges has been navigating seasons of uncertainty while still trying to believe in myself and my future. I've had moments where I failed, my career direction changed, opportunities didn't work out the way I expected, and I had to figure out what was next. One thing I've learned is that a setback doesn't mean you're off course. Sometimes it means you're being redirected. I've had to become comfortable with starting over, learning something new, and stepping into rooms where I didn't necessarily feel completely prepared. Instead of allowing those experiences to make me question my worth, I've learned to let them build my confidence and resilience. I overcame those challenges by continuing to learn, continuing to pursue opportunities, and most importantly, continuing to trust God even when I couldn't see the entire picture. It's important to be in alignment with God. For me, alignment means surrendering the need to control every detail of my life and trusting God enough to follow His direction even when His direction doesn't look like what I originally planned. I've had several different career paths and interests, and sometimes I wondered why I was being moved from one area into another. Looking back, I can see how different experiences prepared me for things I couldn't see at the time. Alignment means asking, "God, what are You trying to develop in me through this season?" rather than only asking, "God, when am I going to get what I want?" It means making decisions based on purpose instead of pressure, obedience instead of comparison, and faith instead of fear. I've experienced several moments where my plans changed in ways I didn't expect. My professional journey alone has moved through healthcare, technology, cybersecurity, business analysis, education, and entrepreneurship. At different points, I thought I knew exactly what direction my life was supposed to take. Then God would open another door or allow a situation to push me toward something different. My transition into education is one example. I didn't necessarily begin my career thinking that teaching would become such an important part of my journey, but working with students showed me another side of my purpose. I realized that my ability to teach, encourage, support, and help people grow was something I shouldn't ignore. I've learned that sometimes God

doesn't give you a completely new purpose, He reveals another part of the purpose He was already developing in you.

I remind myself that I don't have to have everything figured out before I go to God. Prayer is important to me, especially during seasons when I feel overwhelmed or uncertain. I also try to create moments where I can be still and reflect instead of constantly trying to solve everything myself. My relationship with God isn't about

pretending that I never have questions, fears, or doubts. It's about knowing where I can take those things. When life becomes overwhelming, I try to step back and remember what God has already brought me through. Sometimes remembering the previous chapter gives you enough faith to keep walking through the current one. You must recognize when you are walking in purpose versus simply pursuing what you want, and I think the difference is found in the why. When I'm simply pursuing what I want, I can become focused on the outcome—money, recognition, success, or proving something. But when I'm walking in purpose, I become more focused on impact, service, growth, and whether what I'm doing is actually aligned with who God is developing me to be. Purpose doesn't mean everything will be easy. In fact, some of the things that have been most purposeful in my life have also been uncomfortable. I also pay attention to what continues to pull at my heart. When something allows me to use my gifts to help, teach, create, lead, or encourage others, I recognize that there may be something bigger there than simply a personal ambition.

Don't allow a season of uncertainty to convince you that God has forgotten about

you. Your journey may not look like everyone else's, and you may have to start over more than once. You may experience rejection, career changes, disappointment, delays, or moments where you question whether you're really moving forward. Keep going. You don't have to understand the entire plan to take the next step. Sometimes faith is simply saying, "I don't know what's next, but I trust the One who does." Don't shrink yourself because you're afraid of being too ambitious. Don't let your past convince you that you aren't capable of your future. And don't compare your timeline to someone else's. There is still purpose in you. There are still things you haven't accomplished, places you haven't gone, people you haven't helped, and versions of yourself you haven't met yet. Trust God. Trust the process. Keep becoming. And have the courage to believe that your best chapters can still be ahead of you!



PASTOR ELLIOT AND FIRST LADY JEANEEN SHELTON'S
FIRST FAMILY
Christmas

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6TH

3430 Overton Crossing St. | Memphis, TN 38127
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2026 3RD QUARTER REVIEW



OUR EVENTS

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER

Sunday, 10/4
Saturday, 10/17
Sunday, 10/18
Sunday, 10/25

First Sunday Breakfast @ 9:15am/Pastor Appreciation
50+ Presents Seasoned Saints "A Crown of Splendor" @ 2pm
VP Meeting @ 9:15am/ Pink & Purple Sunday
Fall Festival (After Service)

NOVEMBER

Sunday, 11/1
Sunday, 11/8
Saturday, 11/14
Thursday, 11/26

First Sunday Breakfast @ 9:15am
Coffee Conversation/The Huddle/The Link @ 9:15am
50+ Chat/Snack Meeting @ 2pm
Thanksgiving Day

DECEMBER

Sunday, 12/6
Saturday, 12/19
Sunday, 12/20
Thursday, 12/31

First Sunday Breakfast @ 9:15am/First Family Christmas
50+ Quarterly Birthday/Christmas Social @ 2pm
Christmas Service @ 10:00am (featuring YPK & iMAC)
New Year's Eve Service @ 7:00pm

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31ST 7:00PM

2026
NEW YEAR'S EVE
Celebration



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ONE RENOVATION
AT A TIME!**

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The Land Academy Elementary

