

*Celebrating the Life and Service
of
Dr. Gloria A. Mixon*



A Memorial Convocation

**Saturday, June 3, 2023
~ 1:00 PM ~**

FLIPPER TEMPLE A.M.E. CHURCH
580 Atlanta Student Movement Blvd (formerly Fair St. SW)
Atlanta, GA 30314

Dr. Gregory V. Eason, Sr., Pastor
Officiating

Dr. Gloria A. Mixon

Dr. Gloria A. Mixon was a member of four distinctly different but related families; these are biological, academic, spiritual and world. Her Biological Family has its roots deep in Alabama soil while springing from the Finch and Mixon branches. She is one of ten children born to the marriage of Johanna Elizabeth Finch and Theophilous Mixon (both deceased). She has eight brothers (five who are deceased) and one sister (who is deceased); also, she is the aunt of many nieces and nephews. This large and loving family now spans five generations.

Not unlike her Biological Family membership, the Academic Family connections of Dr. Mixon are large and diverse. As a student, she was a member of the families of Woodward Elementary and Brighton High Schools, Miles College as well as Atlanta and New York Universities. She earned three degrees in English and a six-year certification in Reading. She was a member of four faculties; namely, Dillard University (4 years), New York University (11 years), Atlanta University (17 years) and Clark Atlanta University (11 years). At the time of her retirement in May, 1999, Dr. Mixon had taught English and Reading to college students for 15 years and 28 of her 43 years of teaching were devoted to training teachers in the same disciplines. She, herself, believed and challenged her students to believe that teaching is the ultimate contribution.

The third family affiliation recognized by Dr. Mixon is her Spiritual Family. This affiliation was developed through her Biological Family members, and it undergirded her academic involvements. Dr. Gloria Mixon was brought up in St. Mark AME Church, Brighton, Alabama, where she developed an early love for God. She was an active and committed member. When Dr. Mixon joined the Flipper Temple Church family in 1976, she continued to be an active member, and her personal relationship with God deepend and matured. Through both of these family connections she enjoyed a loving and learning environment.

The fourth and final family in which Gloria Mixon enjoyed membership is that of the World Family. Knowing that all of God's creation and creatures are related, she sought to experience first-hand, many of the peoples of the world in their native homelands. She traveled to East, South, West and North Africa; Amsterdam, Australia, Bermuda, Canada, England, France, Hawaii, Italy, Jamaica, Russia, Scotland, Spain and Switzerland. Through these travels she gained a greater appreciation for the unique yet similar attributes of people.

Yes, Dr. Gloria A. Mixon was a member of four distinctly different but related families – biological, academic, spiritual and world. But most of all, she is a member of the family of God. She is now a returned child of the King!!



The Order of Service

Processional. Instrumental
Lift Up Your Head, O Ye Gates

The Musical Selection. The Unity Choir
How Great Thou Art

The Opening Prayer Delman Smith
Almighty God unto whom all hearts are open, all desires are known, and from whom no secrets are hid; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by inspiration of Your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You and worthily magnify your Holy name; through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

The Scripture

Old Testament - Hosea 6:4 -6; 11:8 -9.....Harry Cleveland
What shall I do with you, O Ephraim? What shall I do with you, O Judah? Your love is like a morning cloud, like the dew that goes early away. For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God, rather than burnt offerings.

How can I hand you over, O Israel? My Heart recoils within me, My Compassion grows warm and tender. I will not execute my fierce anger, I will not again destroy Ephraim; for I am God and not a man; The Holy One in your midst, and I will not come to destroy.

New Testament - Romans 8:35 -39

Who shall separate us from the Love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him that Loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other creature shall be able to separate us from the love of God, Which is in Christ Jesus Our Lord.

The Musical Selection. The Unity Choir
What a Friend We Have in Jesus

Reflections Family, Clark Atlanta University and Friends
Please limit to two minutes

The Memorial Message Rev. Dr. Gregory Eason, Sr.

The Closing Prayer

O God, who has prepared for those who love You such good things as surpass our understanding; pour into our hearts such love toward You, that we love You above all things, may obtain Your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Recessional *When We All Get to Heaven*

Farewell

Any departure of a loved one
However long or brief
Can leave us filled with loneliness,
Sadness, or grief
But
Separation by death is harder still
Rendering us helpless to alter His Will
Knowing, however, that in things great and small
God sees our need and provides for all.
Thus, even through sorrow, today, we can smile
Because our departed Beloved is His Returned child.

– Dr. Gloria A. Mixon
December, 2006



A Dozen Life Lessons

The Twelve Life Lessons which appear below grew out of the events and activities related to my vegetable garden and the gardening process; nevertheless, understanding and applying the principles of

these lessons in all areas of life are essential to daily walking with God.

1. All human action follows thought, either Divine or human. Think in a new way and you act in a new way. Act in a new way and you become a new person.
2. The life-soil of a loam-type Believer provides the ideal environment for Spiritual growth and development, because it is warm and receptive to guidance by the Holy Spirit. You must become a loam-type Believer.
3. Never accept a poor quality life-soil without making efforts to improve it; patiently and persistently allow the Holy Spirit to amend your life-soil with love, hope and faith.
4. Planning and flexibility are essential to success; therefore, you must follow your God-guided life-plan and be flexible in change.
5. Sow the seeds of observation of God's universe and you reap the harvest of communion with God.
6. All Living things produce according to their God-given natures; our true natures and talents come from God.
7. Universal Law dictates that you do not only reap *what* you sow, but that you always get back *more*.
8. Take a backward glance at successfully completed tasks and then go forward to accomplish even greater things. The backward glance inspires and motivates.
9. From loss can come hope. Focus not on what you have lost but on what you have left. Find in *every* situation reason for praise and thanksgiving.
10. All healthy gardens (both physical and Spiritual) require cultivation. Diligent cultivation of your Spiritual garden keeps you connected to others and to God.
11. Never keep for yourself all that God sends; cheerfully share your bounty and enjoy a harvest of continuous Blessings.
12. As the gardening year never truly ends, never-ending, too, is the Believer's growth in wisdom and knowledge. Indwelled by the Holy Spirit, you are ever alive with learning.

¹ Taken from : Gloria A. Mixon (2000). Unpublished. Life Lessons from the Garden: Divinely Guided Pathways. East Point, Georgia.

Acknowledgments

Our mother, Mrs. Johnna Finch Mixon, taught her children that there is nothing more important than family; in like manner, nothing is more important than friends. Both family and friends, therefore, require our love, a love that binds and supports. We must:

Respect each other
Love each other
Encourage each other
Forgive each other

Thank you for sharing your lives with me.

Gloria

Please join in the Repast downstairs,
immediately following this
Memorial Convocation.



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