

# From the Pastor's Desk

July 6, 2020

## To the Morning Star Baptist Church Family and Friends:

In Isaiah 43, the Prophet recorded the Lord giving the following instructions to Israel. He said, "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; you are mine" (Isaiah 43:1b). The Lord went on to describe several scenarios wherein the children of Israel may have reason to fear, and He told them, "Fear not, for I am with you" (Isaiah 43:5a). Finally, to ensure congruency of message in both the Old and New Testaments, the Apostle Paul, when speaking to his beloved pupil, Timothy, reminded him that "God has not given you a spirit of fear but of power, and of love and of a sound mind" (2 Timothy 1:7). Therefore, regardless of the challenge, believers are not to fear, but to exercise a measure of faith trusting in the Holy Word of God and the more than 7,000 promises set forth therein.

I know you may grow weary. I know that you may suffer undue burdens. I know that you may feel as if you are overwhelmed.

Whatever your response to the challenge of the day, please do not despair, fret, but most importantly, do not allow fear to take hold of you.

Fear will paralyze you physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Fear will cause you to second guess yourself and allow doubt to rise up in your decision making. There are many responses to the various challenges we are facing, but fear is not one of them. Fear is a sign of unbelief and demonstrates a lack of trust for God. If you find yourself falling prey to the emotion of fear, I humbly ask that you cry out to God the Father and declare with your mouth, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief" (Mark 9:24). He will do just what He said He would do. He will make you whole and give you what you need not to fear and to overcome.

I pray God's blessings be upon you and that you remain safe, committed, and sold out for the Lord Jesus Christ. I miss and love you much.

Yours in the Service of the Lord Jesus Christ,

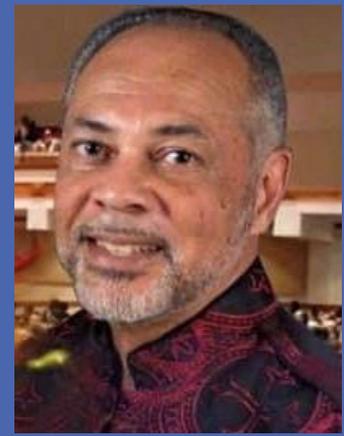
John H. Whitfield, Pastor

**STAY HOME! SAVE LIVES!**  
**Remain Faithful and not Foolish**

1. **STAY** home as much as you can.
2. **KEEP** a safe distance
3. **WASH** hands often
4. **COVER** your cough
5. **SICK?** Call ahead

Email: [msbcgulfport.org](mailto:msbcgulfport.org)

Website: [morningstar@msbcgulfport.org](mailto:morningstar@msbcgulfport.org)



Pastor John H. Whitfield

## You Say...

I can't figure it out

I'm too tired

It's impossible

Nobody loves me

I can't forgive myself

It's not worth it

I'm not smart enough

I'm not able

I can't go on

I can't do it

I can't manage

I'm afraid

I feel all alone

## God Says...

I will direct your steps

*Proverb 3:5-6*

I will give you rest

*Matthew 11:28-30*

All things are possible

*Luke 18-27*

I love you

*John 3:16*

I forgive you

*Romans 8:1*

It will be worth it

*Romans 8:28*

I will give you wisdom

*I Corinthians 1:30*

I am able

*II Corinthians 9:8*

My grace is sufficient

*II Corinthians 12:9*

You can do all things

*Philippians 4:13*

I will supply all your needs

*Philippians 4:19*

I have not given your fear

*II Timothy 1:7*

I will never leave you

*Hebrews 13:5*



**MORNING STAR BAPTIST CHURCH**  
2050 Thornton Avenue  
Gulfport, MS 39501

**TO GOD BE THE GLORY!**