

PASTOR'S CORNER

From the Desk of Pastor Daniel Simmons

Book of the Month

First Things First: Keys to Living the Abundant Life

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Scripture Readings:

"Reaping the Benefits of Trusting God" (NIV)

Week of October 1st

Exodus 15:2

Week of October 8th

Isaiah 40:28-31

Week of October 15th

Isaiah 41:10

Week of October 22nd

Psalms 33:4-6

Week of October 29th

Luke 12:8-10

Reaping the Benefits of Trusting God

(Many Members, One Body)

Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek His will in all you do, and

He will show you which path to take.

Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV)

This 152nd anniversary of Mount Zion is a blessing from God! Oh - if the generations past who envisioned days like these in the future of the church body could just take a peak and see how faithful our God is in honoring the hope and desire of their hearts - surely, they would say, "It's even better than we could have imagined!" Their response would be right. *Our trust in God reaps benefits that not even we as God's people can begin to envision!*

The history of Mount Zion's church body and the works of love and service we provide through ministry were founded upon the basic scriptural principles of God's Holy Word. And because we have the assurance of knowing that neither God nor His Word will ever change - we operate in the power of that knowledge - *no matter what the world predicts or projects for our lives.* Our God is faithful! And our commitment to love, trust, and serve Him has led us to reap His benefits in this thriving ministry! There is still much work to be done to draw more people to Christ. As each year passes, our church body continues to grow. That's a benefit from God! However, the harvest remains plenty, and there is still much room for more workers to help bring in the harvest. Until that blessed time when Jesus Christ returns, Mount Zion's work continues in providing food, drink, shelter, clothing, medicine, and fellowship to the least of these. In doing so, we trust in the Lord that we may touch the hearts of those we serve so that they in

return will choose to surrender their lives to Him and become followers of the Good Shepherd.

I am so grateful to God for this body of believers He assigned me to as Pastor. In my 26 years of service at Mount Zion, I have come to know you and share moments with you that are treasured gifts to my soul. As your leader, I am always concerned about making sure I teach you and lead you in the way God would have me to. Some of His lessons can be difficult for us at times, but in all things said and done for the Lord – *it is meant for our good – always.*

Congratulations to the Mount Zion family for this 152nd anniversary celebration of family love, unity, development, and service to God and God's people! Let your praise and worship during this season of celebration be lifted high to the Heavens in honor of the faithful and mighty God we serve! Let us thank Him for the benefits we receive from His hand because we trust in Him!

Thank you for your love and generosity towards me and my family in these 26 years of pastoring! For every kind word, moment of laughter, tokens of love...and testimonies of God in your life that you've shared with me...you've blessed my soul and helped to ease the burden that comes with the difficult days each of us experience. Because of Christ, I love you with all my heart, and I look forward to the journey ahead we will share in Christ as we begin a 153rd year of church ministry and 27th year of leadership – *all to the Glory of God!*

