

The Springfield Redeemer



April 1, 2025
Newsletter of Redemption
Gate Mission Society,
Holy Grounds Coffee House
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Is it really what it looks like?

By Dr. Iris L. Jenkins, PhD

As people, we put a lot of stock in appearance. It's quite amazing when we consider the amount and variety of information we gather about others, solely based on appearance. We look at hairstyles, clothing and jewelry, tattoos and piercings, level of cleanliness. We look at shoes and watches. We pay attention to whether a person has a car, what kind of car they're driving or if they're being driven. We consider the physical space we see them in (some locations will speak more positively of them than others). We put it all together and in moments we've come up with a snapshot of an individual we may have never met, let alone spoken with. We have ideas about their likes and dislikes, their personality, music they might listen to, places they might hang out, and who their friends are likely to be. We have ideas about the professions they might have, whether they are likely to battle addictions or to have had run ins with the law. So many ideas based only on observations.

People have been doing this for a long time. In the Bible, when God through the Prophet Samuel, was going to choose the next King, those who "looked the part" were presented as possibilities before Samuel. God let Samuel know that they weren't the chosen ones, despite their good appearance. God had chosen David, the little, ruddy shepherd boy while refusing others. *I Samuel 16:7 (KJV)* **"But the Lord said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart."** God knows what is on the inside of every person. The God-given talents, the potential, the skills. God is well aware of where people are now, but He also knows where they're going.

We often reserve *II Corinthians 5:7* (**"For we walk by faith, not by sight:"**) for situations where we're waiting for our blessing. We think it only applies when we're talking about difficult circumstances and how we're expecting God to work them out for us. Let's consider that this verse also applies when it comes to people. We don't go by what we see. We don't base our treatment of people on how they look, but we base it on the fact that they are God's creation and even if we can't see it, God has a plan for their lives! We must have enough faith in God to see the value of individuals BEYOND what we see physically.

God created us all. He's placed greatness in each one of us. Who are we to decide, based on our evaluation of someone's outer appearance, that there's nothing of value in the heart? Christ is all and above all. Let's consider others with His perspective in mind.

Pastor Renzo's Report – January 2025

Dear Dr. C. S Cooley and RGMS Board Members,

I'm submitting my Monthly Ministry Report for February/March 2025. I've emailed my Ministry Cover Letter, Resume, Letters of Recommendation and other documents to 1 more new Pastor from Western New England and worldwide. As Evangelist and Revivalist from RGMS, I'm establishing contacts and sharing my vision of the urgent need for NE churches to come together in fervent prayer for revival and evangelism. Having forged new relationships with about 317 Pastors since August 2020, our hope is to preach REVIVAL, teach Christian History Seminars/tours together in NE after I secure enough commitments

On Saturday Feb. 22nd, I participated in the Ignite Kingdom Men's Breakfast and Lunch, and then passionately prayed for revival, on Sunday February 23rd, I preached a St. Valentine's Day sermon entitled, "The Great Love of God" from John 3:16 at Greater Grace Church of CT in Enfield. On February 25th, I joined about 15 saints in a powerful prayer for revival and awakening at the Rise Up New England office in Agawam, MA., on March 9th, I again preached at Greater Grace Church of CT in Enfield. Title was "Living for Jesus" from Galatians 2:20.

On March 11th, I joined about 16 saints for another focused and intense prayer meeting for the upcoming Evangelist Ted Shuttlesworth 6 day celebration at the Eastern States Fairgrounds this coming June! On Sunday March 16th, I am going to my friend Pastor Sam Swift's Ministries of Love & Hope Church in Enfield, CT as they are hosting TEEN CHALLENGE. Afterwards, we are going Soul Winning! Afterwards, I'll be on a Zoom meeting with Author Mark Conrad from "Being the Church" Ministry in Fall River Betsy and I plan to attend the DISCIPLE MAKERS Training conference at Agape Christian Fellowship in Brattleboro, VT on March 28-29th. Rev. Steve Loots will be equipping us for Church Planting, Evangelism, , MA. I will interview him about His book entitled, "Whatever Happened to the Biblical Church: Seeking an Authentic New Testament Life".

Pastoral Training, and Distribution & Discipleship!

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Renzo Ventrice

***Weekly Event: Morning Bible Study Monday & Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 9:30
455 State Street, Springfield MA, 01105***

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

WALK FOR JESUS April 19, 2025

ELEVENTH ANNUAL OLD TIME GOSPEL SING-A-LONG May 10, 2025

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**Come out and March for King Jesus in a Celebration
of our Risen Savior**

**Saturday April 19, 2025 Starting at 10am from Holy
Grounds Coffee House 455 State Street**



**Starting at the
Holy Grounds Coffee House
455 State St. Spfld,MA.
and ending at the steps of
Spfld. City Hall.**

**Sponsored by
Pastor Dr.
C.S. Cooley
United Temple
COGIC,
Redemption Gate
Mission Society
and clergy
in the
surrounding
area.**

**For more information please call: (413) 626-6807, 330-4658,
316-8982 or 885-5777**