

# My Praise 2009 Faith Testimony

My faith testimony began back in the summer of this year, July 7, 2009, to be exact. I was in my living looking at the memorial service for the late Michael Jackson, and Jennifer Hudson was dressed in a beautiful white dress as she sang, "*Will you be there?*", while she was singing, her backup singers picked up position directly behind her, and they began to do hand movements as in Praise Dance, my eyes was bulging out, I went Oh! the next thing I knew is that they walked to center stage formed a circle and did a Jewish circle dance around Jennifer Hudson, then suddenly I began to have an open vision, I saw dance movements that had nothing to do with what was being done on stage at Michael's homegoing service, The vision lasted for about 10 secs, then I had to be snapped back to reality by the Holy Spirit. By the time Jennifer Hudson had finished singing I had to ask myself a question, did her backup singers know anything at all about praise dance?

That night I fell asleep with the song playing over and over in my head, I could not get the song out of my mind. I always loved Michael Jackson's songs never spent that much time listening to his music, one of his songs I loved the most is "Heal the world", I was also impressed with his humanitarian acts of giving the largest checks ever written by any single giver, what an artist he was. Each day the song continued to play over and over in my head, I decided to pray about it, and after I prayed I was led to get the music, and the first time I played the song I began to weep as I immediately saw visions of people dressed all in white, holding white lit candles in their hands, they were walking in different formations across a stage, then I saw people being baptized in the background, I also saw fathers carrying children on their shoulders, and the children also had white lit candles in their hands, and this is where my story of faith truly began, faith to believe that God had given me the choreography for Michael Jackson's song "Will you be there".

I then began to question myself, how in the world would anyone allow me to minister to a secular artist at a church, much less at a Christian event such as Praise 2009? I began to question myself as to whether I did get a vision from God or not, so I began to spend time in prayer while waiting and trusting God to prove that it was Him who had given me the vision, soon after, God began to put the pieces of the vision together for me.

I began to prepare myself by creating a rehearsal schedule, each evening I got home from work I would go to one of my bedrooms and practice, I practiced every day, 7 days a week for 3 weeks. Finally, it was time to present the vision to Dr. Keisha Bright. Meantime am praying and trusting God that she would allow me to minister the piece with the music done by a secular artist, something I had never done in all my 30years of dance ministry experience.

My first appointment to see Dr. Kiesha fell through, the second appointment also fell through, and I was beginning to lose faith. On my third appointment, she was waiting for me at her church in DC, I showed up shared the vision with her, and waited for her response, to my surprise, she said “OH!!! Michael Jackson! She then told me, a Pastor delivered a message at her church a couple of weeks ago and his message was about Michael Jackson, she then said “yes, you can do the piece”, HALLELUJAH!!!! I shouted in my heart, at that point I was thinking “OK God, so you needed time to prepare her heart for my visit”, hence the reason for the first and second appointments falling through. I left my appointment with Dr. Keisha and was very happy with the outcome.

I then began to seek God on where was I going to get all those people I saw in the vision for the piece, did I have to flex my faith muscles again? but God did not respond, I guess He was saying O’ ye of little faith. I then began to prepare for rehearsals and even extended an invitation to two people from my ministry to minister the piece with me, one of them said she could not make the commitment, and after the first rehearsal with the other person, on my way home I got a phone call and I was told by her that she thought she heard from God to do the piece with me, but that she did not hear from God at all. At that time, I remembered praying about the piece and the Holy Spirit told me that there will be many distractions but that I should remain focused, so I began to think, “ok God am I all alone, do I have to do this piece alone and where would get all those people you showed me a vision walking across the stage?”, I then began to feel abandoned and very much alone, and again I began to question myself, “did I really hear from God?”, was that vision really from God?

I continued to stay in prayer and by faith, I continued to work on the choreography each day.

While polishing up the piece I was still not sure what God would do about all the people I saw in the vision, I was unaware of what God was doing, as I realized that my hands were tied and that I could not even bring myself to make a phone call to anyone for help, so I stayed in prayer, meantime, the time was approaching for the dress rehearsal and at this late hr., all I could do was to increase my faith for God to supply the people I saw in the vision. In the early stages of my preparation, I had asked Dr. Keisha if she could help me out by allowing me to use some of her dancers, but I do not recall getting a definite answer from her. Friday, October 30, I got to the dress rehearsal at the Arc Theatre in Washington DC, and while standing in the lobby I was overcome by fear that I did not know where the dancers would come from to walk across the stage during the piece, as I stood in the lobby standing off in a distance in complete solitude, my eyes began to water as I asked God “where are the people you showed me?”, then I was jolted into consciousness by quiet a voice which said, “that woman across the hallway go talk to her”, and as if I was on remote control I quickly walked over to her, I have no idea what I was doing by asking another ministry leader if I could use her dancers in my piece, to me it was unethical, but I did it anyway trying to be obedient to the voice of the Holy Spirit.

I calmly introduced myself and told her that I was the participant opening the next show right after the Praise and worship and that I needed some dancers to simply walk across the stage while I ministered, as I popped the question to her, to my surprise she had a jovial look about her, as she said “sure, how many dancers do you need? I replied “about 20”, she replied “between my ministry, and she pointed across the lobby, and that other ministry we should be able to come up with 20 people”, suddenly my mouth hung open and I was in shock at how quickly the supply came, from that point on I pulled myself together, and quieted my spirit, I tried to thank her but she did not seem interested in being thanked and instead she walked away in a jovial mood, I was quiet and in awe the rest of the evening. {Wisdom Key, sometimes we have to be quiet and wait on God to move.} During the dress rehearsal we found out that because of the size of the stage only 10 dancers will be suitable for the piece, which was a blessing.

For me the faith walk was not over, I felt that Miss. Thompson and her dancers were only available for me at the dress rehearsal and not for the show itself, so I sent an email to Miss. Keisha letting her know that I would need at least 7 people for November 22, 2009, because I already had 3 people of my own, again I do not recall getting a confirmation from her, so I

said “Lord I trust you, I don’t know what’s going to happen on the 22, but if I have to use only 2-candle bearers then I would still go forth”, and at that point, my mind became at peace.

On Sunday, November 22, 2009, we were getting ready to head to the theatre, and I recalled the Holy Spirit words to me, expect distraction on the 22nd. That evening we grabbed our bags and headed down to the basement to leave for the theatre, as we got to the basement we could smell gas everywhere but we could not tell where it was coming from, immediately, I heard the soft voice of the Holy Spirit said, “do not be distracted leave now for the theatre”, but my husband was concerned about the gas smell and I was too, my Mother-in-law and brother-in-law was upstairs and we were concerned about what would happen if we left without finding the source of the gas smell, so I said let’s pray, I remembered Donna Lightsey prayed, that when Mr. Richard drop us off and return home that he will find the source of the gas smell. By now the smell was becoming unbearable, so we were forced to leave, we closed all doors leading to the upstairs level and we left, my husband Richard dropped us off at the theatre and headed back to the house, I called him about an hour later and he told me he had found a can of paint which exploded in the garage, thanks be to God for uncovering the distractions of the enemy.

It was now time to get dressed because the show was about to begin. We got dressed and headed backstage when we got there I saw 8 female dancers sitting quietly, and dressed all in white, they looked like Angels, I don’t know what anyone else saw, but I saw Angels, they were all black and beautiful, and they were very quite not speaking at all, and they were looking at me as if waiting on their next instruction, I was humbled when I saw them, yes indeed, this is my *Faith Story*, God supplied for the vision that gave me. I explained to them what I needed from them, and they understood, and I was amazed. I remembered during cooperate prayer, Dr. Keisha prayed that we are to be there for each other and help each other, I knew that she was speaking by the spirit because this is exactly what Dr. . . Keisha and the whole Praise 2009 team did for me, they were there for me.

Special thanks, to Miss. Thompson and her dance ministry team for being obedient, may God increase you more and more.

Mother Hazel from First Baptist Church of Glenn Arden, who in the early stages told me that God told her to tell me that I would get a standing

ovation. Mother Hazel followed up by attending the show, and I was later told that when I stepped out on stage the audience stood up and remained standing throughout the entire piece. Thank you, Mother Hazel, I am honored to know you.

Mr. Colin Jeffers, thank you, for providing the baptismal photo prop for the stage, you are a blessing.

Thank you, Ms. Tarsha Washington, and Ms. Lidia Atolagbe for the continuous prayer offered up on my behalf, love you both.

Dr. Keisha Bright, I am forever grateful beyond words, this was certainly a faith walk for me, Praise 2009 has been a blessing to me and will certainly be for many years to come, hence the reason for this testimony 13 years later, and it still feels like yesterday. May God continue to be with you always and may He fill you with His wisdom more and more each day, and your mom is such a quiet source of strength and support, a true gem for all time.

Love always

Richard and Vilma Bond

Click on the link below to see the choreography for the late Michael Jackson's song "*Will You Be There*"

<https://www.purityinmovement.org/video>

# A Season of Faith



## **PRAISE 2009**

Sunday, November 8, 2009  
Sunday, November 22, 2009

THEARC Theater  
1901 Mississippi Avenue  
Washington, DC 20020

Dear: Purity in Movement

We come to you in the mighty name of JESUS proclaiming His praises through PRAISE 2009 "A Season of Faith". This is our 9th year of lifting up the name of JESUS through one power packed evening of praise & worship through ministry of movement. **The date of the program in which we would like to invite your ministry is Sunday, November 22, 2009 @ 4:30PM.** The event will be held at THEARC Theater – (1901 Mississippi Avenue Washington, DC 20020).

The PRAISE programs allows liturgical dance, step and mime ministries within the Washington, DC Metropolitan Area to come together to share in the love of Jesus Christ. God was truly in the midst these past 9 years, therefore it could not be ignored in continuing this type of PRAISE program this year. If you were present at any of the Praise 2000-2008 programs you can attest to the power of ministering through dance.

Realizing that we did not get to this point without anointed ministries fellowshiping with us. We are requesting your ministry ministry to bless us with one selection at the PRAISE 2009, (November 22<sup>nd</sup>) program

Standing on our theme of "A Season of Faith" we are asking that you seek God on a selection that will minister to the congregation. ***Due to program time constraints we are requesting that you pray on a selection that is 5 minutes or less in length.***

If your ministry consents to participating we are asking each ministry to assist us with the success of the PRAISE 2009 program by selling at a minimum 15 tickets.

We pray that your ministry will be able to fellowship with us. If you would like to view information on our PRAISE program, please visit us at: [www.chosenone-ministries.com](http://www.chosenone-ministries.com). We would like a tentative acceptance by August 30, 2009. We are excited about what God is preparing to do on this evening. Please send

emails to: [choseneministries@yahoo.com](mailto:choseneministries@yahoo.com)



God Bless,

***Keshia C. Bright***

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