

AICM Update: Church Celebrates 41-Year Anniversary

—Founder reads from his 42-year-old Bible

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By: Samuel G. Dweh: Development Journalist Covering AICM's Activities in Liberia



Rev. Dr. Roosevelt Liberty and Esther B. Liberty

Our Dearest Partners and Friends in Christ,

The Church of the Believers, Inc. celebrated its 41st year of existence, beginning from Monday (May 15, 2023) through to Sunday (May 21). The celebration was held at the Headquarters branch, located in New Matadi Estate, Sinkor, Monrovia. Other branches celebrated in Counties they are based.

The Anniversary activities included: Opening Service (Monday), Service (Tuesday), Fast & Prayer (Wednesday), Healing Night (Thursday), Reading of the Church's history and miracles God performed in members' lives during the foundational days of the Church (Friday), Testimonies and Thanksgiving (Saturday), and Closing Program (Sunday).

Prior to his Closing Day's sermon, Dr. Liberty praised his wife (the Church's Mother) for her outstanding church-planting gift and through whom all COB's current branches came to being. Today COB has thirty-four branches in five Counties: Montserrado (with the Headquarters Church), Grand Bassa, Rivercess, Nimba, Grand Gedeh, and Margibi.

"I will read from the Bible I bought on August 5, 1981!" Rev. Liberty announced to the body COB members gathered.

His sermon's topic was "The Four Stages of Ministry", with Ezekiel 47:1-12 as reference text. The four stages he mentioned were: the ankle-deep stage; the knee-deep stage, the loin/waist-deep stage, and the overflowing stage.

He said God took him through all the stages as He took Ezekiel through them.

He said he was a Chief Accountant working with a Company, LIRAMCO, located in Gardnerville, when God told him to give his full time to evangelical work to be Chief Accountant for Him.

"My employer and some of other people I told about my going fully into evangelical work told me, I was mad because leaving a good job with excellent salary and benefits, moving into preaching work, which may not meet his family needs," he told the audience.

On the first Ministry's stage, ankle-deep, he said he never took offerings from the people he preached to, and his family suffered from severe hunger. "I remember a female neighbor telling my little daughter, during that time, to lick under her leg as a condition to giving food to my hungry daughter. And my daughter licked under her leg," the now 75-year-old preacher recalled one of his bitter economic experiences during his earliest preaching day when he was in his late 20's.

The second Ministry's stage, knee-deep, is about the Gospel preacher's physical impacts in the lives of people he/she had ministered to, Rev. Dr. Liberty said. "During one of my preaching tours in the Matadi, where we are now, I prayed for a pregnant lady experiencing severe stomach pains. One year later, she recognized me on a public transport bus and presented a baby to me as my son. She told me the baby was the person I prayed for when she was pregnant," he said.

The loin (or waist-) deep stage is about "continuation of God's miracles through His servant," the COB Founder said. Giving his personal example, he talked about dozens of sick persons healed through his praying sessions at a crusade in Zarwulugbo Town, a rural part of Nimba County named in memory of his chief-hunter father. "The song I suggested during that crusade is "Everywhere he went, he was doing good", a reference to Jesus Christ during his preaching ministry on," the Liberian clergyman informed the gathering.

The fourth Ministry's stage, Overflowing-deep, is about the full spiritual maturity of God-commissioned deliverer of God's people from the grip of the devil, Rev. Dr. Liberty said. On his personal experience, he told the anniversary celebrants how God rescued him from a water-god (named "Ni Gee" in the Bassa dialect) while travelling in Nimba County during his preaching and deliverance mission in the county.

"As the Overflowing-deep stage continues to blossom in many directions, the Lord sent my wife, Esther to America and we served as missionaries for fifteen years. Great miracles occurred while in the States: The Lord educated me by providing a scholarship through the late Dr. D. James Kennedy founder of Knox Theological Seminary at Fort Lauderdale, Florida and achieved my Master of Divinity and Doctorate in Ministry. The Lord established the Africa International Christian Mission through us registered with the State of Florida and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) of the United States of America. God provided our needs while serving him in America because we were working full-time for the Him. God's overflowing blessings continues in Liberia when we returned in 2016: Ten new churches has been added to our denomination, many missions points are being planted, and many souls have been won to the Lord daily," Dr. Liberty said.

The Church Founder concluded his sermon with an appeal to all COB members, in all branches, to pray for him to be strong to continue God's work he started during his youthful age. "Please pray for me to be strong. I am now old. I don't know when God will take me home to be with Him," he said.

Before the sermon, there were testimonies from some members. Two of the testimonies were horrible. One was about a female member who died instantly after a motor accident while taking her young child to Sinoe County. The information was delivered by her husband—Mr. Mark Easkin. The second horrible testimony was about another female member whose leg had burst, water flowing out of the leg, and is not healing fast, so she couldn't participate in any of the days of the anniversary program. The sick member's message to the Church was delivered by another female member.

"I answered God's call for the evangelical ministry when I was in my late 20's, age 29," Rev. Dr. Liberty told me a day after the closing program of the 41st Anniversary.

Items for Prayer

1. Pray for the Free Feeding Program at the Christian High School. To support a child in this program is \$0.50 per day, \$2.50 per week and \$10.00 monthly.
2. Pray for the 425 Students at Christian High School. Most of these students are orphans and most needy families' children.
3. Pray that God will touch our partners and the Christian community for each student to be supported. The cost is between \$125.00 - \$150.00 per year.
4. That the school payroll of \$2,650.00 be raised monthly. Presently, we have not paid our teachers for two months (\$5,300.00).

You can send your donation in three ways: (1) Deposit your gift to our account number: 003444131464 at any Bank of America; please write your name on the deposit slip and (2) you can give online by clicking the PayPal's button below. For proper accountability, please write in the memo of your PayPal's document the ministry that you are supporting. And (3) one of the best ways to send money safely to us is through Sendwave (<https://sendwave.com>) to phone number: +231880375511 for Roosevelt Z. liberty.

Thanks for your prayers. Information Desk, AICM Ministries