



Dear Pastor Webster...

I pray this finds you well and full of the peace found in Christ Jesus. I am grateful for your support and well wishes.

Greater New Guide is taking “baby” steps toward resuming ministry activities in 2023. A Church Update Conference is scheduled for Wednesday, March 28, 2023. The overall pastoral vision will be presented at that time. Ministry leaders will then meet to start planning for the future of the church.

I am excited about the possibilities God has for His people at Greater New Guide and for the community we serve. My desire is for us to continue to grow and mature in Jesus Christ, as well as to show His unconditional love among ourselves and with others.

We are in a period of transition but we are still “on the Master’s mission”. We can, and will, prevail through faith, prayer, and unity. **It’s possible!**

Pastor Mark Thomas

“If you can?” said Jesus. “Everything is possible for one who believes.”

Mark 9:23

It's Possible

Dear Pastor Webster...

You have truly been a blessing to me. Before coming to Greater New Guide, I went to church on a regular basis, but I didn’t attend Bible study often. I read my Bible sometimes, but not on a regular basis. I rarely studied God’s word at home. I now have an appreciation for God’s word, and I share with my family at meals times. I have also taken to heart your admonition that “Our day should start and end with prayer”.

Thank you, Pastor Webster.

Linda Clark

Dear Pastor Webster...

You served the Lord with greatness at Greater New Guide for 37 years – tirelessly, faithfully, and with great commitment to your flock. Your investment in the lives of others has truly made a difference. How do I know this? I know this because you have made a huge difference in my life. You taught me so much about God’s word and I would not be the wife, mother, or person that I am, were it not for your leadership and guidance. I congratulate you on this milestone and I pray that God will continue to bless you as you enter this new chapter in your life.

Love,

Lisa Smith

Dear Pastor Webster...

Thank you for being a Pastor, not just a Pastor, but a God-fearing Pastor. I never had a relationship with a Pastor until I was introduced to you. I have learned so much under your leadership during my 24 years at Greater New Guide. You encouraged me to read the Bible, and to attend Sunday School and Bible Study on a regular basis. I thank you for your marriage counseling – it has taught me how to be a loving and respectful husband. I will never forget your teaching. I can truly say that I understand God’s word.

Larry Smith

Dear Pastor Webster...

You have meant the world to me because of your;

(P)owerful Preaching of God's Word

(A)wesome Dedication to God's Word

(S)tanding firm on and Living God's Word

(T)eaching God's Word

(O)beying God's Word

(R)eaching out to tell others about God's Word

I will always remember your dedication, love, and commitment to God, Sister Webster and your family, our church congregation, and especially to me and my son. I love you and Sister Webster.

Happy Retirement!!

Renee Hullaby

Dear Pastor Webster...

Over 37 years I have many memories to share. I picked the following for you.

- I call my church's office to speak with my pastor. Mrs. Patterson places me on hold and returns to the phone (laughing out loud), "The pastor said 'tell Creque, that I said, I'm not in today.'" #MyPastor
- I was not a steady worker. I would get upset and quit in a flash. #MyPastor told me, "Creque, you're not getting any younger. You need to think about retirement. In my mind...". **Retirement!!!**
I am now 5 years out of retirement after 30 years – 20 steady years with the Attorney General's Office. Thank you #MyPastor
- From me to #MyPastor I hope your hearing is much better in that this comes to you behind L.O.L.

Sharon Creque

Dear Pastor Webster...

I have always believed in "spiritual seasons". Twenty-two years ago, God sent me a "destiny helper" in the person of Isaiah J. Webster. There was an instant kinship and an instant connecting of spirits. We are alike in so many ways – straightforward, disciplined, and passionate about God's people. Over the years we have taught together, served together, counseled together, prayed together, laughed together, and cried together. What an amazing journey it has been.

Neither of us knew how long our journey would last, we just continued our labor for the Lord. Unbeknownst to either of us, our 2020 annual lunch date would be our last "yearly lunch date". Our journey together reached a spiritual fork in the road. It was time to journey down different paths while still working for the kingdom. God gave me a new

assignment, one that relocated me to a different house I will carry our friendship with me wherever my path shall lead. I shall forever remember you as my pastor and as my friend. Thankfully, our story hasn't ended, just changed chapters. Live well "Warrior" more is still ahead.

Forever in my heart,

Johnetta McCray Russ

Dear Pastor Webster...

I am grateful that God gave me the opportunity to serve under your leadership. Your commitment to teaching and preaching sound doctrine has tremendously impacted my spiritual growth. May God continue to bless you and your family.

Olivia J Carter

Dear Pastor Webster...

Thank you for your vision, devotion, dedication, and passion for sharing the word of God with us. You and Sister Webster will forever be remembered in our hearts!

Love,

Larry and Corlis Green and Family

Dear Pastor Webster

I don't remember the topic of your first sermon as Pastor of Greater New Guide Baptist Church. What I do remember is the delivery. I also recall saying to myself, "YEAH, that's my pastor"! You have been a friend, a listener, and a great source of support for me and I thank you for that.

For the 37 years that you have been my pastor, I have grown and matured spiritually. The financial training and many other training sessions have been sources of valuable spiritual as well as personal enrichment and growth for me. May you feel the contentment of a job well done.

Jeremiah 29:11 – "For I know the plans I have for you" says the Lord, "they are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope."

Psalms 37:25 – "I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed beg bread."

Much love to you and Sister Webster

Robbie Robinson

Dear Pastor Webster...

You have been a great inspiration in my life! With your caring hugs and gracious smiles, you have been a vessel that has helped me to grow and understand God's Word. In my time of need, in the passing of my son, I remember you contacting me and sharing words of comfort and heartfelt prayers. Although you were also grieving the loss of your own brother, you took the time to minister to me in such caring and thoughtful ways. Your kindness, your caring nature, and the many sermons are greatly appreciated. They have truly been a blessing to me. To Sister Webster – I would like to thank you as well for being so caring, kind and thoughtful. You are truly a blessing. Wishing you and your family all God's promises in life.

Happy and blessed retirement through the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen

Sherlita Williams

Dear Pastor and Mrs. Webster...

You have been such an integral part of my family since I can remember. I appreciate all the love, support, and encouragement you have given us over the years. I still have the letter of encouragement you wrote me when I was in my first year at USAFA and trying to get through basic training and first year academics. Well, I made it through and I am so grateful that you have shared in that joy with me. I know that retirement will be a big adjustment, but you Sir, are deserving of some rest and relaxation. Perhaps you can visit me in CO and we can go hiking, skiing, and white-water rafting

I love you Pastor Webster and I wish you all the best!

"SEMPER FI - ALWAYS FAITHFUL"

First Lieutenant Makayla Gilliam

Dear Pastor and Mrs. Webster...

Thank you for being a constant in my life. You have fulfilled many roles over the years: counselor, advisor, employer, and friend. Both of you have been there through many of my life challenges: job loss, health concerns, bereavement, and parenting. You have not only been there for me my family (Ursula) as well. I absolutely love you and am so grateful that God sent you to us.

La Guardia Collins

Dear Pastor Webster...

Along our life's journey, if we embrace it, God will allow extraordinary people to cross our path and help define us as human beings, making us better! How beautiful this is when it builds your character and your mission for the Master. My husband and I are better disciples; we have been taught about spiritual gifts, what ours are

and how to use them for building up the kingdom of God and not just the world; we grew stronger in planning our finances as God teaches; we were blessed with an under-shepherd for 30 years to whom we could go at any time for sound, Godly-based counseling in all aspects of our life. It's amazing! With all the flock you had to attend, you always had time for us when needed - any time, day or night. Your love has always been unconditional regardless of the circumstances, good and/or bad...we have made mistakes along the way but one thing has been constant and scripture states it so eloquently, "But the greatest of these is love." Reverend Webster, thank you for loving us unconditionally and for all you have given of yourself throughout the years. We love you unconditionally as well. We thank God for equipping you to be an awesome under-shepherd for Him. To God be the Glory!

Much love,

Renaldo and Roseland Starks

Dear Pastor Webster...

You played an integral part in my Christian walk and my thirst for knowledge as a new member. I am forever grateful for your wisdom, your Biblical knowledge, and your teaching. The Greater New Guide Baptist Church was a source of peace, comfort, and strength for me during my law school tenure in Baton Rouge.

Thank you,

Marie Madril, Tucson, AZ

Dear Pastor Webster...

I am originally from Shreveport and I have been in church all my life. After graduation from Southern University, I attended Mount Pilgrim for a while. I was invited to Greater New Guide and I was hooked. My children were baptized here and I have so enjoyed having you as my pastor. You are a gentleman and you truly love God. It flows to those around you. You are very business-minded, yet you take time for your members. I am truly blessed to have called you, my pastor.

Dayneise Wheeler





The Lord bless you
and keep you;
the Lord make His face
shine on you and
be gracious to you;
the Lord turn His face
toward you and
give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26



BLACK RESISTANCE

When Carter G. Woodson established Negro History week in 1926, he realized the importance of providing a theme to focus the attention of the public. The intention has never been to dictate or limit the exploration of the Black experience, but to bring to the public's attention important developments that merit emphasis. This year's theme for Black History Month, "Black Resistance", takes a look at how African Americans have fought repression from America's earliest days.

From escaping the plantation, to the rise out of poverty and the struggle for equal housing and education to the struggle for voting rights, the resistance lives on into the 21st century:

Beginning with colonial days, an act of resistance struck fear into the hearts of white slave owners in New York City as early as 1712. More insurrections against slave owners would continue right into the mid-19th century. Rebellions in New Orleans, South Carolina and, more famously in Virginia with Nat Turner's Rebellion, were all quickly put down. Yet each insurrection helped to strengthen the resolve of black slaves to find any escape route from slavery.

By the mid-1800's, Harriet Tubman had earned the nickname "The Moses of Her People" when she helped slaves travel into free states and into Canada and Mexico by way the Underground Railroad. Tubman was only one of many who helped establish the secret network of escape routes (with safe houses along the way) which resulted in an estimated 100,000 slaves fleeing to freedom.

President Abraham Lincoln would make escape routes unnecessary by signing the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863, as tens of thousands of former slaves joined the Union forces during the U.S. Civil War.

In the years following reconstruction, the infamous "whites only" Jim Crow Laws that pervaded African

American life in the post-war period resulted in a form of passive resistance -- as millions moved with the Great Migration north beginning in the early 20th century. In the North, at least, and elsewhere blacks finally found their voice on stage, in sports, in the recording industry, or in the political arena

Black resistance was epitomized in sport stars like Jesse Owens (who brought even the Nazi regime down a notch with his stunning triumph during the 1936 Olympics).

In popular culture, singer Billie Holiday kept the black struggle in the national spotlight with her bestselling and controversial song, Strange Fruit ("Southern trees bear a strange fruit, blood on the leaves and blood at the root.")

By the 1960's resistance in the form of the Black Panther Party was in counterpoint to the Civil Rights Movement which espoused more peaceful means to the same end.

Under the unmatched leadership of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr the battle for equal rights extended to not only blacks but for other minorities and the white working poor.



Helping to finally end the last vestiges of Jim Crow, the Civil Rights Movement also gave impetus to inclusion of blacks in the political process that ultimately resulted in the election of Barack Obama, the first Black US President in 2008.

Today, response to the murders of African Americans by law enforcement and others, as well as mass incarceration of Blacks, has led to the rise of the Black Lives Matter movement.

Black History Quotes

“The cost of liberty is less than the price of repression.”
W.E.B. Dubois

“This is our national truth: America would not be America without the wealth from Black labor, without Black striving, Black ingenuity, Black resistance.”
Nicole Hannah-Jones

“Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we’ve been waiting for. We are the change that we seek.”
-Barack Obama

“The thing about black history is that the truth is so much more complex than anything you could make up.”
Henry Louis Gates

“If there is no struggle, there is no progress.”
Frederick Douglass

“Freedom is never given; it is won.” A Philip Randolph

“If a race has no history, if it has no worthwhile tradition, it becomes a negligible factor in the thought of the world and it stands in danger of being exterminated.”
Carter G. Woodson

“If they don’t give you a seat at the table, bring a chair.”
Shirley Chisholm

“History has shown us that courage can be contagious, and hope can take on a life of its own”
Michelle Obama.

“Won’t it be wonderful when Black history and Native American history and Jewish history is taught from one book. Just U.S. history.” Maya Angelou

“African American History is a fundamental part of American History – if we want to understand American History, we must include all of our history.”
Dr. Charles Vincent

SUGGESTED READING

For Black History Month and beyond

The 1619 Project: A New Origin Story by Nikole Hannah Jones

A dramatic expansion of a groundbreaking work of journalism, *The 1619 Project: A New Origin Story* offers a profoundly revealing vision of the American past and present.

The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America’s Great Migration by Isabel Wilkerson

In this beautifully written masterwork, the Pulitzer Prize-winner chronicles one of the great untold stories of American history: the decades-long migration of black citizens who fled the south for northern and western cities, in search of a better life.

Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents by Isabel Wilkerson

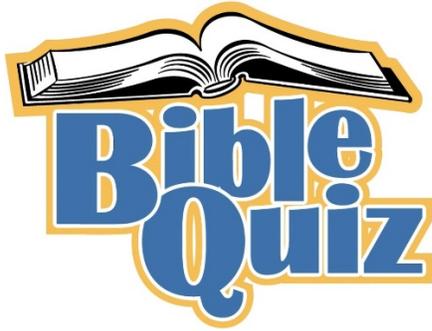
The Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Warmth of Other Suns* examines the unspoken caste system that has shaped America and shows how our lives today are still defined by a hierarchy of human divisions.

Unseen: Unpublished Black History from the New York Times Photo Archives by Dana Canady, Darcy Eveleigh, et.al

Hundreds of stunning images from Black history have been buried in the *New York Times* photo archive for decades. Four *Times* staff members unearth these overlooked photographs and investigate the stories behind them.

Black Reconstruction in America W.E.BuBois

Originally published in 1935, this pioneering work by the most influential Black intellectual of his time was the first full length study of the role Black Americans played after the Civil War, the period known as “reconstruction”



1. How many times did the devil tempt Jesus at the end of His forty days fast?
 - a. 2
 - b. 4
 - c. 3
 - d. 1
2. When Jesus returned to the synagogue after His temptation, from which book was he asked to read?
 - a. Jeremiah
 - b. Isaiah
 - c. Amos
 - d. Obadiah
3. Why were the people angered after Jesus read in the synagogue of Nazareth?
 - a. Because He proclaimed that He was the one sent to be Lord.
 - b. Because He had told them they were all blasphemers.
 - c. Because He had thrown chairs and pews and destroyed the sanctuary.
 - d. Because He urged them to repent of their sins.
4. What miracle did Jesus perform on Simon's boat at the Lake of Gennesaret?
 - a. He filled their nets with fish in water where they had not preciously found ant fish.
 - b. He walked on water
 - c. He healed the multitude and preached the Sermon on the Mount.
 - d. He calmed the waters.
5. What did Jesus first tell the man that was lowered into Simon's house while He was preaching, before telling him that he could 'take up his bed and walk'?
 - a. You are healed
 - b. You are my child
 - c. Your sins are forgiven you
 - d. You will live and be prosperous from this day forth
6. What happens if we endure in our faith?
 - a. We will live
 - b. We will reign with Him
 - c. We will see God
 - d. None of the above
7. In Isaiah Chapter 7, Isaiah predicted that Christ would be born of what?
 - a. God
 - b. Man
 - c. A virgin
 - d. Woman
8. What was the sign to the shepherds that confirmed that the Savior had been born in the City of David?
 - a. That the northern star would appear
 - b. That the sky would open and the Lord would call out.
 - c. That they would find a babe wrapped in swaddling cloth, lying in a manger
 - d. That their flock would run wildly possessed off the side of a cliff.
9. Why did Jesus' parents return to Jerusalem each year?
 - a. For prayer
 - b. For worship in the Temple of God
 - c. For the Feast of the Passover
 - d. Because Jesus urged them to
10. What bodily form did the Holy Spirit descend as to greet Jesus when He was baptized?
 - a. A bird
 - b. A dove
 - c. A lion
 - d. A horse

(Answers are on the last page)

Kid's Corner

Coloring Pages



Answers to the Quiz

1. C
2. B
3. A
4. A
5. C
6. B
7. C
8. C
9. C
10. B

GREATER NEW GUIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

3445 FAIRFIELDS AVENUE

BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70802

REVEREND MARK THOMAS, PASTOR

225-356-4410

www.gnebe.net

MEMORY VERSES

March	Psalm 27:10 – Though my father and mother forsake me, the Lord will receive me.
April	Philippians 4:6 – Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.
May	1 Chronicles 21:8 – Then David said to God, “I have sinned greatly by doing this. Now, I beg you, take away the guilt of your servant. I have done a very foolish thing.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	WORSHIP SERVICE
Wednesday	6:00 p.m.	Bible Class
Thursday	10:00 a.m.	Bible Class