



CBF NOTES



From the CBF President's Desk



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

My sisters and brothers, I appreciate this medium to communicate with the regional family of Baptists. I greet you on behalf of my wife, Betty, and trust that so far, the New Year is being unfolded in your favour and God's will for your life.

On February 22, the Christian community will be observing Ash Wednesday, beginning the journey to the Cross. I know that during this period, Christians normally choose various ways of marking the Lenten Season; but whatever way you have chosen, be it dietary restrictions or intensification of spiritual disciplines, I urge you to use the time for serious reflection towards spiritual renewal.

One of the most anticipated events on the Baptist World Alliance calendar will be held July 22-26, 2015 in Durban, South Africa. This will be the 21st Congress of the Alliance. The theme is **Jesus Christ, the Door**. The Congress is designed to bring together Baptists from all continents for worship, Bible study and fellowship. I know that some persons who had initially expressed a desire to attend changed their minds because of the threat of the Ebola virus; but we have been assured by our leaders that due diligence has been done to ensure the safety of those who will be attending.

I am, therefore, using this medium to appeal to Caribbean Baptists to come on board so that a good contingent of Baptists from our region will be in attendance. We are pleased to know that some of our Caribbean leaders will be playing an active role at the Congress. Rev. Dr. Anthony Carroll from the Bahamas will be one of the preachers and the Rev. Everton Jackson from Jamaica will be moderator for one of the "Focus Groups". I encourage all Baptists to be in prayer for the Congress.

I am aware that the 4th Believer's Convention & 165th General Assembly of the Jamaica Baptist Union will be held in Montego Bay, Jamaica, on February 18-22, 2015. On behalf of the Caribbean Baptist Fellowship, I pray God's blessings on Jamaica Baptists as they meet to discern the will of God for their Union at a time such as this.

May God bless you all!

Dr. **William Thompson** (Rev. Dr.)

CBF Notes...

Caribbean Baptists' way of staying in touch.

We will always need your help in the following ways:

- Distribute *CBF Notes* as widely as possibly.
- Forward the *CBF Notes* to your email contacts.
- Post a hard copy of the *CBF Notes* on your church's bulletin board.
- Send us contributions about what is happening at your National body and individual churches.
- Join our mailing list by sending your email address to us.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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Feature: Caribbean Baptist Personality Feature



FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE/TREASURER



REV. EVERTON JACKSON

A number of proposals were endorsed by the CBF General Assembly, held in October 2014, for implementation in this quinquennium, 2015–2020, relative to disaster response and human needs, ministerial training, Christian education and stewardship, mission and evangelism, and communications.

Disaster Response and Human Needs

The Caribbean is considered a vulnerable region for natural disasters and so efforts will be made to encourage the establishment of disaster response committees at the level of the local church and convention/union/association. Each convention/union/association will be asked to name a representative to the CBF Regional Disaster Response and Human Needs Committee.

To facilitate ease of information flow and quick responses, the Caribbean will be divided into three regions, that is South, North and East, with each region having a regional director with an assistant. Affiliation for each region will be sought with the Caribbean Regional Disaster Association.

The CBF website will be used to disseminate information about the activities of the conventions/unions/associations across the region. The establishment of a PayPal account will also be explored to receive monetary support, especially in times of disaster.

The CBF disaster response mechanism will work in tandem with BWAID in responding to disaster needs in the region. As it relates to the writing of project proposals, the CBF will provide training for executive members who, in turn, will be expected to share the information with the conventions/unions/associations in their territories.

Theological Education

The Caribbean Baptist Fellowship is concerned about the number of Baptist churches in the region, particularly in the Eastern Caribbean, which are without trained pastoral leadership. Among the factors responsible for this are the high cost of theological education and the absence of formal theological institutions in some territories. As a result, the CBF, through its ministerial training committee, has developed a certificate programme in pastoral studies around four areas; namely: Bible, Theology, Pastoral Studies and Baptist Polity. This certificate programme is intended to be an in-service programme, validated by the CBF and accredited by an approved University or Seminary. The committee is currently prospecting for a seminary or university, which would be willing to accredit the programme.





FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE/TREASURER (CONT..)

Christian Education and Stewardship

Caribbean Christian Publications (CCP), which is the publishing arm of the CBF, is responsible for publishing Sunday School literature, which is culturally relevant, and theologically sound for most of the affiliated English-speaking conventions/unions/associations of the CBF. CCP will be exploring the possibility of publishing material also in French and Spanish to cater for the needs of the non English-speaking territories during this quinquennium. Deliberate efforts will be made to address stewardship issues in the Sunday School lessons as well as to publish other materials in response to the needs of the region.



Baptist churches in the region will be encouraged to give attention to the needs of the disabled community. New church buildings should include special facilities for the disabled while older ones should be modified to include these facilities. Unions/Conventions/Associations will be encouraged to provide training for persons in special education in order to cater for the needs of this community — for example, sign language.

Mission and Evangelism

The CBF is a mission partner in a tripartite relationship, which includes the St Vincent & the Grenadines Baptist Convention and the Jamaica Baptist Union; and the Missionary Baptist of South Haiti and the Jamaica Baptist Union. The latter partnership is for theological education, while the former is for training and short-term missions.

In 2012, the CBF entered a formal partnership with the American Baptist Churches International Ministries. This partnership is indented to facilitate mission partnership between churches of both organizations and between the two entities. Efforts are being made to encourage participation from the CBF member bodies in this partnership.

The CBF will develop a cadre of competent trainers and evangelists and circulate the list to member bodies so that they can access their services. In addition, a discipleship-training manual will be developed for use in member bodies.

Communications

In an attempt to improve the communication of the organization, a comprehensive database of multiple contacts in each territory will be developed. Some of the features of the CBF website will also be upgraded to reach a wider audience by adding YouTube videos, live streaming, payment apps and other relevant up to date apps.



FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE/TREASURER (CONT...)

As a result of the high cost of travel within the region, the CBF will utilize Skype and other FaceTime conferences to convene some of its meetings. In addition, attempts will be made to equip the CBF conference room with screens, cameras, CPU and monitors for the purpose of teleconferencing.

Concluding Remarks

From all indications, the CBF has made significant progress over the last quinquennium. There is an obvious revival of interest on the part of some member bodies. There are, however, some areas needing urgent attention if the Fellowship is to develop and grow at the desired pace.

Going forward, member bodies will need to improve on their responsiveness to communication as well as fulfilling their financial obligations to the Fellowship. For this quinquennium, the effort to reactivate dormant member bodies and to organize new conventions will be intensified.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Everton Jackson".

Everton Jackson (Rev.)



*CBF General Assembly
2014*



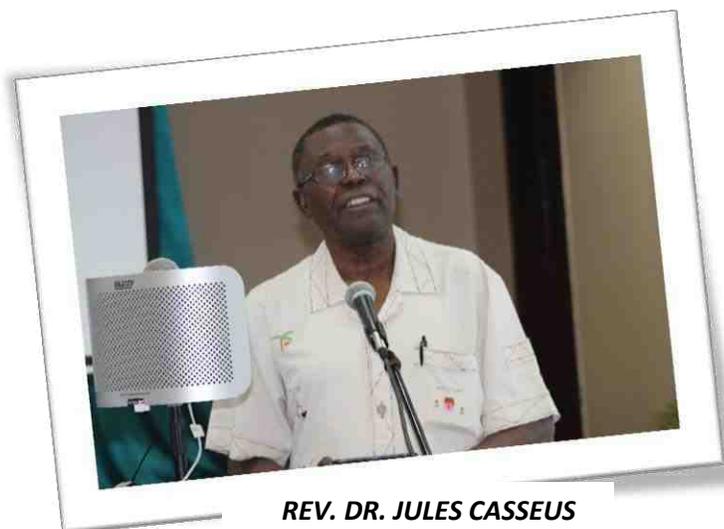
THE CBF GENERAL ASSEMBLY BIBLE STUDIES

CRIME AND VIOLENCE:

THE CHURCH'S RESPONSE - THE CARIBBEAN CONTEXT (cont'd...)

Part 2

—Rev. Dr. Jules Casseus, Haiti



REV. DR. JULES CASSEUS

Domestic violence, child abuse and corporal punishment, gang and drug related violence are among the primary motivations identified for committing crime.

In a joint letter on violence in Jamaica, the Roman Catholic Bishops reminded us that a Christian response to crime and violence is not to cry for vengeance but to forgive as the Lord forgives:

“Jesus was not teaching mere passivity in the face of violence, but

was teaching the transforming possibilities of love. This is a love that must be expressed in addressing the conditions that give rise to violence and crime: the unemployment, poverty, lack of educational opportunities, decay of family life. Jesus did not resist the evildoers, but redeemed them with his love, which he expressed in many ways, in acts of forgiving, healing, feeding.”---]

Our Christian Mission

In times of great social unrest, there is a public expectation that the Church will contribute significantly to the healing and development of society. The expectation is well founded since social justice is a constitutive dimension of Christian faith and a fundamental condition of our covenant with God. The people of Israel were waiting for a leader who would deliver them from the bonds of slavery. The Messiah would bring about a time when the reign of God would begin and Justice and peace would cohabit.

The Church has inherited from Jesus Christ, the mission to proclaim and establish the kingdom of God. Our salvation in Jesus Christ always has a social dimension. The community of believers is an important leaven in society, bringing peace and justice to a world wounded by sin and slavery.



THE CBF GENERAL ASSEMBLY BIBLE STUDIES (cont'd)

Ways of Carrying Out the Mission

The Church should continue the prominent and highly visible responsibility for the education and socialization of our nations' children, promoting Christian values contrary to those characteristics of a culture of violence and death.

As a part of this educational process, the church can emphasize the rights and responsibilities of citizens and the Christian duty of working for the common good. The Church can also play an active and direct role in creating and implementing programmes for alleviating poverty, through counseling and practical assistance where possible.

The Church must always stand up prophetically in defense of the common good and against government policies where these violate the requirements of social justice...

“Blessed are the Peacemakers”

As the Church, we are more than a community of believers. We also form the mystical body of Christ who is the Prince of Peace. We, therefore, share in His mission to bring true peace to the world. For Christians, peace is not only an absence of war or violence, but also a presence — the presence of God among us.

As the body of Christ, possessing His Spirit, the Church's prayer and worship are powerful contributions towards greater peace in the world. Our Christian communities, if faithful to their calling, should also be strong arguments for justice and peace, incarnating the presence of God among us. This is the most effective witness we can give to the love which promises to transform our world from a place of hatred and injustice to a place of peace and freedom. This is the heart of our mission — the mission we inherited from the Lord. We can be more than we are!



The Church family and community are in a position to respond to violence and the threat of violence in our society with new commitment and creativity. Our faith and facilities can be beacons of hope and safety for those seeking refuge from violent streets and abusive homes. People can become peacemakers in their homes and communities. Local churches can organize mentoring programmes for teen parents. The Church can be the first point of referral for spousal abuse. We can incorporate ways to handle family conflict in our Christian education, teach basic values and conflict resolution. The Christian leaders and the Church in our region should take



THE CBF GENERAL ASSEMBLY BIBLE STUDIES

the responsibility to help shape the Church and nations to be more clearly committed to global responsibility and the pursuit of peace in a still violent world

Perhaps, the greatest challenge is the call for all of us to examine our own lives, to identify how we can choose generosity over selfishness and choose a real commitment to family and community over individual acquisition and ambition. In many small ways, each of us can help overcome violence by dealing with it in our area. We can join with other churches in developing a community wide strategy for making our neighbourhoods safe, welcoming and peaceful.

The sermon we preach can be a powerful means of promoting the Scriptural call to peacemaking and to deepen our own relationship with Jesus — the source of true peace. The preaching of our pastors can be a call to peacemaking and a voice against violence within our families, neighbourhood and the broader community. Our church schools can be a very significant bulwark against violence. They can offer moral and ethical foundations, discipline and safety for millions of children.

Conclusion

Jesus-Christ, the cornerstone of Christianity, in His overall teachings advocates peace, love, and compassion. Christian theologians, among them J. Denny Weaver, point to a strong doctrinal and historical imperative, within Christianity, against violence, particularly Jesus' *Sermon on the Mount*, which taught non-violence and "love of enemies". Weaver asserts that Jesus' pacifism was "preserved in the justifiable war doctrine that declares all wars as sin, even when declaring it occasionally a necessary evil.

In recent history, some notable leaders, like Gandhi, Martin Luther King Jr. and Nelson Mandela, have left for us examples of non-violence and pacifism. In a response Martin Luther King gave to some of his black brothers who wanted him to react violently against racism, he said, "I ain't gonna kill anybody". He preached, instead, the "strength to love".

In his book, **La Politique de l'Espérance - A Politic of Hope**", French ecclesiologist, André Biéler wrote:

"The local Church should be a place of consciousness raising, a place of reconciliation, a relay for action in the world. It is in the Local church that men and women receive their formation to answer to their vocation as God's children; they are always called to leave the world, to be sent back later as God's agents to the world".

Yes, the children of God in the Church should be educated in such a way that they can serve as salt and light in this mad world, this world of crime and violence.

From working on this subject, I realize that the Catholic Church has a better organization, a better sense of solidarity throughout the world, a better sense of solidarity throughout the Caribbean nations. As proof, we have mentioned the joint letters and conferences that their bishops organized to tackle the state of crime and violence in the region. Their model is not to be



THE CBF GENERAL ASSEMBLY BIBLE STUDIES

neglected if we of the Caribbean Baptist Fellowship want to be effective, faced with the burning issue of crime and violence. It would be great if the CBF community can:

- 1) work together and show a real sense of solidarity among us Baptist leaders throughout the Caribbean nations. I know that there is the challenge of vast volumes of water which separate us, the challenge of different languages, but that would be a first step toward facing crime and violence.
- 2) invite other Protestant denominations to join with us at another level so that we can battle against this common enemy, and that would be a second step.
- 3) join in, in some ways, with the Catholic Church in our region to make a bigger impact in responding to crime and violence throughout the Caribbean nations, and that would be an ecumenical effort.

It is a big, big task. I cannot help but sing the words of Martin Luther King Jr.: "We shall overcome, we shall overcome, we shall overcome SOME DAY".

*Blessed are the peacemakers:
for they shall be called
the children of God.*

Matthew 5:9



RESOLUTIONS PASSED AT CBF GENERAL ASSEMBLY

RESOLUTIONS

Two of the eight resolutions passed at the 2014 General Assembly of the CBF were:

1. WHEREAS the historical protestant reformation movement is a powerful source of inspiration for our longing for freedom from religious oppression; and

WHEREAS we affirm the Word of God as light to our feet as we walk in step with the Spirit; and

WHEREAS we affirm that we are saved by grace through faith,

BE IT RESOLVED that the CBF encourages the study of the Reformation Movement and celebration of the 500th Anniversary of the movement in 2017.

2. WHEREAS the Baptist Convention of Guyana and the Guyana Missionary Baptist Church have worked together to host the Caribbean Baptist Fellowship General Assembly; and

WHEREAS much effort, time and resources have been expended in the preparation and execution of the meeting; and

WHEREAS the quality of the presentations have been of a very high standard; and

WHEREAS the Baptists of Guyana have demonstrated great hospitality,

BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates in attendance at the Caribbean Baptist Fellowship General Assembly meeting in Guyana express their sincere thanks and profound gratitude and appreciation for a job well done.



*Participants at CBF General Assembly held in
Guyana November 2014*



CARIBBEAN CHRISTIAN PUBLICATIONS LAPATHON 2015



CARIBBEAN CHRISTIAN PUBLICATIONS LAPATHON 2015 — MARCH 21 AT EMANCIPATION PARK

Kingston, Jamaica – February 11, 2015: Caribbean Christian Publications (CCP), the region's leading provider of Sunday School and Bible Study material, will be staging its fifth annual Lapathon on *Saturday, March 21* at Emancipation Park in the parish of Kingston. The event, open, which is open to runners, walkers and joggers, will start at 6:30 a.m. It will be held under the theme, *Living the Word – Moving by Faith*.

Proceeds from the Lapathon will help to finance CCP's Writers' Conference for the development of the new Adult and Youth Sunday School curriculum. It will aid the non-profit organization to sustain its efforts in providing biblically grounded, educationally sound and culturally relevant Sunday School literature for Jamaica, the rest of the region and the Caribbean Diaspora in North America.

LAPATHON 2015 - IDEAL FOR FAMILIES, CHURCHES & BUSINESSES

Last year, 120 persons participated in the Lapathon at Emancipation Park. They represented several private sector, civic and Christian organizations, including 10 churches. CCP is anticipating an even bigger turn out this year.

Beryl Roper, Director, CCP is appealing to families and other groups to participate in this year's Lapathon. "Come out and support the event. By so doing, you will contribute to the moral health of the nation and our region through strong and vibrant Sunday Schools' teaching of sound doctrine in a culturally relevant format," urges Mrs. Roper. "Donate cash or kind, bring a group to walk on the day, and/or sponsor a group of youngsters who are eager to participate but cannot afford the entry fee. Be part of the change we all want."

Mrs. Roper is of the view that the Lapathon, over the years helped to increase awareness of the importance of Sunday School, and wholesome literature for the entire family. The CCP Director is also encouraging more Jamaican and Caribbean families to get involved in Sunday School at a church of their choice.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS AT LAPATHON 2015

Other activities to be hosted at the Lapathon will include a dancercise/aerobics session for adults, hula-hoop competitions and lime-and-spoon races. CCP will also have an information booth. Members of the



*Some participants in last year's Lapathon held at
Emancipation Park*



CARIBBEAN CHRISTIAN PUBLICATIONS LAPATHON 2015

public can view displays about the work and audio-visual products of CCP, the literature ministry of the Caribbean Baptist Fellowship.

REGISTRATION

The registration fee is J\$500 per person. Organizations which donate J\$10,000 to the Lapathon will receive 25 passes for their team members. To register, persons should visit the CCP website at www.ccpcbf.org, fill out the Registration Form, scan and email it to info@ccpcbf.org and take it with the registration fee to the CCP office at 27 Balmoral Avenue, Kingston 10. Another option is to obtain the Registration Form at the CCP office and pay the registration fee there.

ATTRACTIVE PRIZES

The competitor who does the most laps will win a gold medal and other attractive prizes. Medals and other tokens will be presented in several other categories. For the second consecutive year, the largest church group/corporate group participating in the event has the opportunity to win the champion trophy.

LAST YEAR'S WINNERS



Joan Blackwood (left), Accountant, Caribbean Christian Publications congratulates the winner of Lapathon 2014, Maurice Williams of the Bethel Baptist Church, Half-Way Tree, on his victory.

Last year's Lapathon winner, Maurice Williams of Bethel Baptist, Half-Way Tree, copped a medal and a prize trip for four at one of the Jewel Resort properties. He completed 67 laps (equivalent of 32.5 kilometres); thereby, breaking the 2013 winning record of 39 laps. In second and third place, respectively, were Calment Kerr of Mamby Park Baptist Church who completed 62 laps (equivalent of 31 kilometres) and Lenworth Hunter of Bethel United Pentecostal Church who did 58 laps (equivalent of 29 kilometres).

Maurice Williams expresses elation at his victory in 2014, "It's the first time I am entering the Lapathon so I view this as a major achievement. I just wanted to do my best. I didn't realize that I would break the record!" He shares further reflections on the event: "I ran for the first 21 laps, jogged for next 5 laps and then walked and jogged until I got to 67 laps. I was so tired, my legs felt as if they were trying to leave me. The other competitors, who were pushing me to keep going, motivated me. My church members kept urging me on each time."

Among the other winners last year were: Brian Thomas of Penrith Full Truth Gospel Church of God who won the aerobics marathon and Andrene Solomon of Bethel Baptist Church who placed second in that marathon. The Penrith Church also received an award for being the new entrants with a large contingent.

For more information on CCP Lapathon 2015, visit <http://www.ccpcbf.org> or www.facebook.com/ccpcbf. For churches outside of Jamaica who want to stage their own Lapathon in support of the CCP Writers Conference, please request more details from CCP. Email us: info@ccpcbf.org or telephone us: (876) 906-2828.



Beryl Roper (left), Director, Caribbean Christian Publications presents prizes to Calment Kerr of Mamby Park Baptist Church who placed second in Lapathon 2014.





JBU 4th CONVENTION & 165th GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JAMAICA BAPTIST UNION 4th CONVENTION & 165TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO BLAZE MEGA-GOSPEL TRAIL IN MONTEGO BAY

Erica James- King



The city of Montego Bay will be a hotbed of gospel explosion from Ash Wednesday, February 18 to Sunday, February 22, as it hosts the premier event on the Jamaica Baptist Union (JBU) calendar, **Believers' 4th Convention and 165th General Assembly**. The theme for the mega-gospel celebration is **Being God's People in God's World – Living by Faith**.

JBU member churches islandwide, a delegation from the Haitian Baptist Churches, Baptist Union of Great Britain (BUGB) and Baptist Missionary Society (BMS) will be participating in this five-day gospel explosion. The Holiday Inn Sunspree Resort and Calvary Baptist Church are the venues for the day sessions and evening worship services, respectively. Daytime activities will include Bible studies, panel discussions, lectures and workshops. The thematic focus for each of the five days, respectively, is: *Our Faith, God's Distinctive Mission – Mission Without Boasting,* *Our Faith, God's Extensive Mission – Mission Without Boundaries, Our Faith, God's Inclusive Mission – Mission Without Barriers, Our Faith, God's Pervasive Mission-Mission Betwixt and Between, and Our Faith, God's Subversive Mission – Mission that Breaks Stronghold & Boldly Serves.*

One of the highlights of Wednesday's activities will be the Believers' Convention lecture, which will address the topic, "Faith in the Public Square". Co-presenters will be the Rev. Lyn Green, General Secretary of BUGB and Rev. Dr. Burchell Taylor, Pastor, Bethel Baptist Church (Half-Way-Tree). A Ministers' Conference on "Making the Mind our Business – Mental Health Awareness" will take place on Wednesday. The presenter will be Dr. Maureen Irons Morgan, Director, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, Ministry of Health.

On Thursday, mission opportunities for the conferees will comprise community outreach programmes and home visitations in the Lilliput, Spot Valley and Cornwall Courts areas, and a march from Calvary Baptist Church to Sam Sharpe Square. An open-air worship service will take place at Sam Sharpe Square on Friday evening.

The closing services of the General Assembly are slated for the Montego Bay Convention Centre. This is an historic happening, as it is the first time in 28 years that the closing services are being held outside of the Kingston and St. Andrew Metropolitan area.



JBU CONVENTION & 165TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Another history-making feat for the JBU General Assembly is that for the first time in the life of the Union, it will receive into its membership, churches located outside of Jamaica's geographical borders. A circuit of three churches in Haiti, Eglise Christianisme Du Calvaire Baptiste, will be given the right hand of fellowship by the JBU.

Meanwhile, as a part of the 200 year-old bond between BUGB/BMS and JBU, the groups will engage in bicentenary discussions. David Kerrigan, General Director of BMS World Mission and Rev. Lyn Green, will be the speakers, representing the British Baptists at the General Assembly. Other preachers/speakers include Rev. Michael Shim-Hue, JBU President and the pastor of Greater Portmore Baptist Church; Rev. Douglas Fowles, the pastor of Fullersfield Circuit of Baptist Churches; Rev. Dr. Glenroy Lalor, Baptist warden at the United Theological College of the West Indies; and Rev. Dr. Sam Green, the pastor of Grace Missionary Church.

This highly anticipated Believers' Convention and General Assembly promises to be a time of soul searching, worship, wonderful fellowship and great inspiration.



 **JAMAICA BAPTIST UNION**

**BELIEVERS' CONVENTION AND
THE 165TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**FEBRUARY 18-22, 2015
MONTEGO BAY, ST. JAMES**

**THEME:
LIVING BY FAITH**

**Day Sessions (Workshops & Bible Studies)
Holiday Inn SunSpree Resort**

**Worship Services
Calvary Baptist - 7:00pm**

**Open Air Service
Sam Sharpe Square-Friday, 7:00pm**

**CLOSING SERVICE:
SUNDAY FEB. 22, 2015
MONTEGO BAY CONVENTION CENTRE
ROSEHALL, ST. JAMES**

**For Registration/Accommodation Booking:
Contact: JBU Office, 2b Washington Boulevard
Tel: 969-6268 or visit website: www.jbu.org.jm**







FEATURE: CARIBBEAN BAPTIST PERSONALITY- REVEREND BRAMBLE

REV. JOHN SEBASTIEN CECIL BRAMBLE



Our Baptist personality for the month is the Rev. John Sebastien Cecil Bramble. This distinguished man of God was born at Biche in Trinidad and Tobago on March 10, 1929.

During his formative years, he received his primary school education at Mitan Presbyterian School (1934-1943) and his secondary school education at Biche Private High School (1948-1950), where he acquired a Cambridge School Certificate III.

Continuing his education, he received a Teachers' Provisional Certificate in 1957 and, eventually, a Trained Teachers' Certificate in 1963. In his continued quest for knowledge John Bramble acquired an Associate Diploma at the College of Preceptors in 1968 and, later, participated in the Junior Secondary Part-Time Teachers' Training programme (1970-1971). John holds an Accredited Preachers' Certificate, which he acquired in 1984, after attending the B.U.D.T.I. for three years. He attended the United Theological College of the West Indies from 1989-1990, receiving a certificate in Theology and a certificate in Mission & Evangelism. Finally, after attending

KAIROS Institute (2004-2006), John was awarded a Bachelor's Degree in Ministerial Theology.

Apart from his academic pursuits and missionary work, our brother has kept himself busy. His other career included working as a policeman and as a teacher as outlined:

- Trinidad & Tobago Police Service (1953-1956)
- Primary School Teacher (1957-1972)
- Junior Secondary School Teacher (1973-1985)
- Principal of a Primary School (1985-1989)

The Rev. Mr. Bramble served the Baptist Union of Trinidad and Tobago as recording secretary (1981-1983); trustee (1984-1985); vice president (Christian Education (1985-1990) and held the prestigious post of president from 1991-1993.

Among his many accomplishments, Rev. John Bramble served the wider Baptist community in several fields. He was a member of the Core Committee of the Christian Education Division of the Caribbean Baptist Fellowship (1980 - 1984); Field Service Co-coordinator of Christian Education for the Southern Caribbean from 1985; Vice President of the Caribbean Baptist Fellowship (1983-1988); served as a member of the Caribbean Christian Publications (CCP) Board of Trustees (1989-2000); as Field Service Coordinator and as a writer of Sunday School literature for the CCP adult curriculum for 16 years; a member of the Evangelism & Education Committee of the Baptist World Alliance from 1990 in the Christian Education & Literature Word Group; Secretary to the Board of Management for Secular



FEATURE: CARIBBEAN BAPTIST PERSONALITY- REVEREND BRAMBLE

Education for Baptist Schools; compiled a Manual for Young Christians in 1996 and prepared a brief history of the local Baptists titled, "We Baptists".

Our honoured brother also launched the All-Age Sunday School in 1978, was an assistant preacher at the Lewis Innis Memorial until 1987, after which he accepted the post of pastor at the Mt. Olivet Baptist Church, a position he still holds.

In addition to his already busy schedule, the Rev. Mr. Bramble served for three years on the Princess Town Social Welfare Board, was a member of the Task Force, which was appointed by the Government to prepare "The Education Policy Paper" for the period 1993-2003. He was also a member of the Joint Cabinet Committee to review the Concordat from 1998-1999.

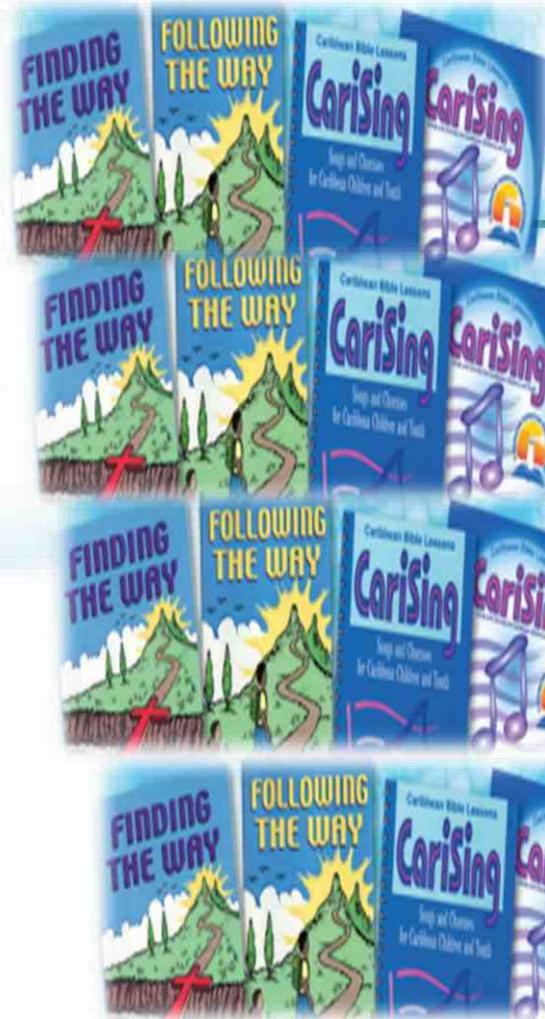
Our *Person of the Month*, Rev. John Sebastian Cecil Bramble, married Ethlene F. Estrada on December 20, 1958. They have six children, 11 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

May God continue to bless Rev. John Sebastian Cecil Bramble as he continues to be a blessing to others.



CBF Youths participate in 'Samaritan's Feet' programme during YouthFestival held in Dominica, July 2014.





*Beaming the Light of God's Word
to Caribbean people*

CARIBBEAN CHRISTIAN PUBLICATIONS
Producers of
**CARIBBEAN
BIBLE
LESSONS**



Caribbean Christian
Publications is affiliated with
the Caribbean Baptist
Fellowship (CBF).

UPCOMING *Mark Your Calendars* **EVENTS**



- ✚ JAMAICA BAPTIST UNION'S 4th CONVENTION & 165TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY (**FEBRUARY 18-22, 2015**)
- ✚ CBF SUNDAY (**JUNE 28, 2015**)
- ✚ TURKS & CAICOS BAPTIST UNION EVENT (**JULY 8-12, 2015**)
- ✚ BWA BAPTIST WORLD CONGRESS- DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA (**JULY 22-26, 2015**)
- ✚ ST. GEORGE'S BAPTIST CHURCH 40TH ANNIVERSARY (**August 2015**)
- ✚ ST. VINCENT & THE GRENADINES JOINT CONVENTION (**OCTOBER 18, 2015**)
- ✚ CBF EXECUTIVE MEETING- GUEDELUOPE (**November 11-13, 2015**)