



# The Harvest Times

A Publication of World Missions

## Remembering Pastor Leon George

The sanctuary of the white, two-story building was full, the pews lined with people from all walks of life who came to pay respects to Pastor Leon George.

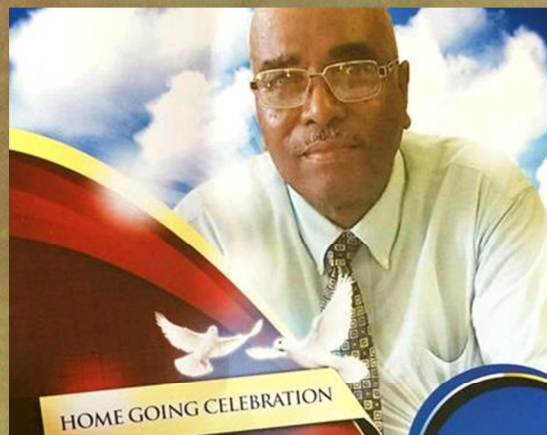
The very structure itself was a silent witness to the life and ministry of Pastor George; he had guided the congregation from its early days in the 1970s, meeting in borrowed and rented spaces, to building and meeting in the spacious edifice today.

Pastor George did not always imagine he would be a pastor; however, by the time he graduated from high school, he wrote for the year book, "If you ask me about my future plans I could not answer in just one word. But if I could help someone make a connection with God, my life is worth living."

His educational achievements and career success as a Human Resources Manager for 40 years for Pueblo Supermarket are worth noting. But the best testaments were the many tributes given by family and friends.

To a church on an island still reeling from Hurricane Maria's devastation in September (the sanctuary is still powered by generator), the loss of such a key, influential leader as Pastor George seems great indeed. Yet, there's another, higher perspective.

As Ernie Mullins, a longtime friend of Pastor George, wrote, "The Apostle Paul makes a bold declaration in Philippians 1:21 that describes so well the life and attitude of Leon George: 'For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.' Either way you flip the coin, Pastor wins!!"



Pastor Leon George had already written a sermon for the Sunday following his death. Here is his conclusion:

"What really matters?

"A life with purposeful living really matters. First and foremost a relationship must be had with God. Then [what matters is] using our God-given gifts to make a difference in the world in which we live.

"More important than length of life is how we spend each day.' Marcia A. Fustado

"A great use of life is to spend it for something that will outlast it.' William James

"A long life may not be good enough but a good life is long enough.' Benjamin Franklin"

*"If I could help someone make a connection with God, my life is worth living." -Leon George, written in his high school yearbook*





Pastor and Mrs. Roland at the Haiti Convention last January



Pastor Samson receiving boxes of meals in 2012



## World Missions

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## AROUND THE WORLD

### HAITI

Director Mark Surbrook was planning to attend the Haiti Convention next month. It is a time of evangelism, training, and baptism. But we recently received word from Pastor Samson that, due to unrest in Haiti, the Convention has been cancelled.

Thank you for your prayers for our Haitian brothers and sisters.

### HAITI FOODBANK

Our Haiti Foodbank feeds children at certain of our Christian schools. For some kids, this is the best meal they eat in a day.

We are grateful to continue to receive free rice-based prepackaged meals distributed by Feed My Starving Children. A partnering organization, Help for Haiti, receives the food into customs and makes it available to us simply for their cost—the cost of shipment. This means one serving of rice only costs us about \$.05!

In addition, we send monthly offerings for supplemental foods and to cover other related costs, such as transportation.

Thank you for praying for the students and teachers at our Christian schools. The teachers' pay does not equal the pay teachers receive at the government schools, but still they choose to serve.