

# The **URBAN LINK** Magazine

**Summer 2016**

**Volume 18 Issue 1**



**Pastor Titus & Nedra Lee**

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**WWW.CONNECTIONTV.NET**



**PASTOR TITUS LEE**

Operation Link-Up is a subsidiary of Voice of Triumph Ministries, Inc. This ministry was started by Pastor Titus Lee in 1995. Since then churches across America have been impacted by evangelism events, hundreds of teens have been enriched by the OLU Teen Mentoring Program and many adults have been equipped to empower teens through training summits. This ministry also publishes bible curriculum. Our ministry offices are located on the southwest side of Chicago, IL.

**LET'S STAY CONNECTED**

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 **YouTube**

[Youtube.com/voiceoftriumph9826](https://www.youtube.com/voiceoftriumph9826)

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## A GRATEFUL HEART!

It is with a heart of gratitude that I thank God for the wonderful partners of this ministry. In 1996 God began to touch the hearts of people across the country to stand with us as we embarked upon our vision of evangelism and teen mentoring. From our first partner to the hundreds that have stood with us over the years we say thank you! It is your faithful support and prayers that have blessed and encouraged this ministry.

As this ministry now moves into its' third decade of outreach we thank God for the things that he has done and the new things that he is doing. In the midst of constantly changing culture we rejoice that we still have a relevant voice. We have been sustained by the Word of God, prayer, fasting, faith, sacrifice and great staff members.

However more than anything, God has been faithful! His faithfulness has carried us in our ministry travels. His faithfulness enabled us to establish Operation Link-Up for teenagers on the south side of Chicago. His faithfulness enabled us to publish Teen Life Solutions Bible Curriculum and to launch the Make the Connection Training Summits that followed. We are grateful because God continues to grace us for this great journey of faith.

As you read this edition of the Urban Link please remember to pray for our ministry outreaches as we strive to do God's will. May you be blessed and inspired. Always remember that your best is yet to come!

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Titus Lee

# HOLD ON TO YOUR RECEIPT

By Pastor Titus Lee

I John 5:13-15

*These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God. 14) And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask anything according to his will, he heareth us: 15) And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.*

What a privilege it is to “be in the know”. When you’re “in the know” that means that you’re privy to facts that other people may not know. To know means to be certain of a thing. In the Apostle John’s closing remarks in his first epistle he assured the church of the certainties of their faith. He said that because they believed on the Jesus Christ that they were to know that they had eternal life (I John 5:13), they were to know that their prayers were heard (I John 5:15a) and they were to know that their prayers would be answered (I John 5:15b).

We can use I John 5:13-15 as a premise to pray with confidence. Our confidence in prayer is predicated on us trusting God to do exactly what his word has promised that he will do. The operative phrase in this passage is, “if we ask anything according to his will, he heareth us.” Therefore, our prayer requests should only reflect what the Word of God says about our situations and conditions. Our prayers should always be anchored in his promises.

Prayer can easily be likened to ordering a product by internet or phone. After the product has been purchased a receipt is provided. Once that receipt has been received it serves as an official record that confirms that the transaction has been completed. That receipt gives you full assurance of what was ordered and when you can expect to receive it. So it is when you pray, “believe that you have received it and you shall have it (Mark 11:23b)”. Here are a few points that can help you pray with confidence and know that it (the answer) is already yours!

## REALIZE THAT PRAYER IS A SPIRITUAL TRANSACTION

Prayer is a spiritual exchange. We give God our needs and he gives us his grace and strength. However, for prayer to be effectual it

must be offered to God in faith. Faith is the currency of the Kingdom of God. It’s equivalent to cash in our economy. When you pray in faith you are certain that God hears you and you are fully assured that he has already worked it out, even if you don’t literally see or feel the answer. Whenever you petition God, intercede for others or decree the promises of the Word in faith it’s like paying for the answer in full. It’s your faith that releases the supernatural power of God to manifest!

## GET A CONFIRMATION IN YOUR SPIRIT

Confirmation is assurance. It is when you know that it’s done. Satan will try to plant seeds of unbelief in your mind in an effort to make you doubt what you’ve prayed for. However, resist all forms of unbelief and lay hold on the answer. Allow God to settle it in your inner-man. You will then experience unexplainable peace and unshakable confidence regarding the prayer matter. This is called a “confirmation in your spirit”, when you know, that you know, that you know that it’s settled in heaven and soon to manifest in the earth. All that is left to do then is to praise the Lord for the fullness of manifestation because it’s already done!

## EXPECT A SUPERNATURAL DELIVERY

When products are ordered obstacles and challenges can make delivery of the product difficult. So it is with prayer requests. Evil spirits (principalities and powers) endeavor to do all that they can in the unseen world to prevent your answer from becoming a reality! Daniel 10:12-13 says, “from the day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God your words were heard; and I have come because of your words. But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days”. Satan does all that he can to delay and block answers to your prayers. Therefore I encourage you to speak to the atmosphere and command it to release your answers! Also, keep an attitude of expectation knowing that God is going to get your answers to you. Lastly, keep your heart free from things that can hinder prayers from manifesting such as: unforgiveness (Mark 11:25-26), unpaid vows (Ecclesiastes 5:1-6) and household bitterness (Colossians 3:19). Remember that it is already done! Get ready for supernatural answers to your prayers!



# 7 Keys to Doing Marriage



**Congratulations to Pastor Titus and Nedra Lee on twenty years of marriage.** They were united in marriage on October 28, 1995. One week later they embarked upon a mission of touching lives through itinerate evangelism and the Operation Link-Up Teen Mentoring Program. They have been blessed to serve in ministry as a couple for many years. Below they share 7 Keys on how to have a successful marriage while doing ministry together!

## 1. PROPER PERSPECTIVE

Your first ministry is to your house hold and then to the world. We have come to embrace that. Successful, sustained ministry is usually correlated with a healthy home. We know that our calling is to God, each other and then to ministry responsibilities. Therefore, we have chosen not to sacrifice our marriage and family on the altar of ministry "busy-ness" (business). Although we have given countless hours to serving in ministry it has never become a substitute or surrogate of our love. We realized that power in the pulpit is gifts (of the Spirit) oriented but power in the home is fruits (of the Spirit) oriented. God has helped us to keep the right perspective.



## 2. STAY BALANCED

Set aside time to connect with each other outside of doing or discussing ministry. If you fail to make time for each other "responsibilities and emergencies" will take your time. Therefore you must be intentional. Ministry is demanding so it's necessary to plan time for just the two of you. Just as it is important for ministry couples to pray together it is also important for them to play together. Do the things that renew, replenish and rekindle your passion on a regular basis. When a couple "recreates" outside of ministry it makes it easier for them to "re-create" in ministry.



## 3. BE ACCOUNTABLE

It's so important to assure your spouse that your perspective is correct when ministry assignments require that you be away from home. Maintain relational attachments by always being reachable by phone. Have a planned time to talk when you're away. Minimize extra nights away from home unless it is absolutely necessary (i.e., a speaking engagement or meeting the following day). If you're away in ministry and your assignment ends on a Sunday afternoon do your best to get on a flight that day to return home to your family (no matter how tired you are). Travelling ministers must always remember that when you're away from home your family misses you. Practicing accountability in this area has helped our love to remain strong through many busy seasons of ministry travels.



# and Ministry Successfully!

## 4. KEEP YOUR PACE

Don't try to keep up with others...stay in God's timing. He meticulously grooms and develops you as a ministry couple! Great callings require great seasons of preparation. Therefore, try to avoid the pressure that sometimes drives ministry couples to overextend themselves just to fit in. Never make "ministry status" your focus, keep your eyes on finishing well "as a couple". In your early stages the pace may seem slow but if you master the slow lane God can trust both of you to faithfully run in faster lanes (more responsibility). We have learned that as a ministry couple we must run faithfully at the pace that God has set for us!

## 5. BE WILLING TO SACRIFICE

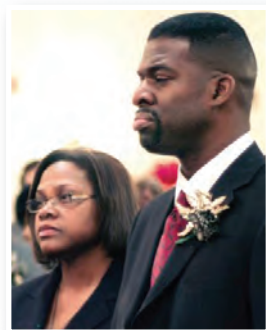
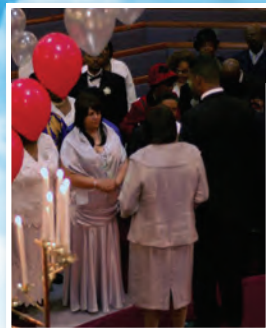
We decided early on in our marriage that "our ministry assignment" was worth sacrificing for. Some visions and goals only manifested after we were willing to offer up what was precious to us. That has ranged from offering finances, properties, careers, conveniences and comforts, etc. for the vision that God gave us when we were first married. However, it's because of those sacrifices that we don't take God's blessings for granted. There is seedtime and harvest for every couple in ministry. God never forgets your sacrifice. He will reward you and your children because you were willing to give it all for the call.

## 6. REALIZE THAT YOUR UNION HAS PURPOSE

We realized that we both had great purpose as individuals. However, God brought us together to fulfill an assignment that required our mutual commitment. Early on in our marriage we learned that each of us had significant roles to fulfill if we were to effectively work together as a team. We realized that we were called to compliment each other and not to compete with each other. We set (and still set) scheduled times of prayer and fasting together as couple. As a result of praying for our purpose (as a couple) we have experienced closeness between us and the courage to continue. Ministry couples should always remember that "two are better than one" and they have been brought together to excel as a team!

## 7. CELEBRATE SUCCESSES

Take the time to celebrate your ministry victories as a couple. Don't be so focused on moving to the next level that you don't rejoice over successes on your present level. Make a big deal over ministry milestones. Whether it's a soul goal, an acquisition, a first-time event or a successful outreach take the time to celebrate. Sometimes it takes months or even years to realize some "victories" so give yourselves permission to take a few hours or days to enjoy your progress and relish the moment as a couple. We believe this a great way that ministry couples can "encourage themselves" in the Lord!





# RISING STAR Breakfast

On November 21, 2015 Operation Link-Up hosted its annual Rising Star Breakfast for Young Urban Males. More than six inches of snow fell that morning but parents and leaders from across the Chicago area still brought their young men out in the inclement weather to be a part of this enriching event. This event was highlighted by a complimentary plated breakfast, worship, performing arts, inspirational speakers and more. Every young man was encouraged to excel and reach for greater success. They were also challenged to rise above average efforts.

They were enriched by the dynamic presentations of Edrick Calahan and Harold Marsh. Both speakers spoke candidly about their life journeys! The morning was also highlighted by exciting group discussions. Several teen leaders came forth to express their sentiments about the solutions that are needed to reach teens today. The morning was a great time of connection and positive interaction for all who attended!





Edrick Calahan engaged the teens while teaching them about the importance of preparation.



Harold Marsh challenged the young men to overcome failures.



Small groups discussed how to resolve anger issues that can lead to self-harm.



The small group leaders represented well!



Pastor Titus Lee shared his heart with the young men.



OLU Alumni, El-Amin Truss and Bro. Rockymore enjoying a moment.



Each young man wrote his own vision statement.



Fathers and sons enjoyed the morning together!

## **O.L.U. TEEN MENTORING PROGRAM IS AVAILABLE EVERYWHERE!**

The Operation Link-Up has impacted hundreds of youth through relevant after-school mentoring programs and bible curriculum since it was launched in 1996. The Operation Link-Up program is now available in a mentoring program format that can be used in any setting. The mentoring program package is comprehensive and relevant! It comes complete with several print and digital leadership guides. This proven program is a must for churches, organizations and neighborhood parent leaders who are serious about mentoring teens on a weekly basis!

- ➔ The O.L.U. Mentoring Program Package is an effective, easy-to-use mentoring program model that is applicable in any setting!
- ➔ There are program guides for: life skills sessions, academic assistance/ prep-4-success, 5-Star quality program and performing arts.
- ➔ Organizational & Program Structure Guides
- ➔ OLU ipak - uniform shirts, i.d. cards
- ➔ Program promotions and publicity pack!

## **REGIONAL MAKE THE CONNECTION SUMMITS & O.L.U. LAUNCH EVENTS**

Make the Connection Training Summits empowers youth workers, youth ministry leaders and parents who desire to excel at engaging teens on a weekly basis through effective programs and outreach. All attendees receive and are trained on how to use our Operation Link-Up mentoring program package. This contemporary program enables ministries and organizations to sustain structured, effective programs year round! All attendees are also enriched through the following innovative equipping sessions: communication strategies, connecting with disconnected youth, building a winning team of youth workers and next level youth program structure! Be sure to attend this great event when it comes to your area. Registration is free and space is limited! Call 866-658-8336 for more information!



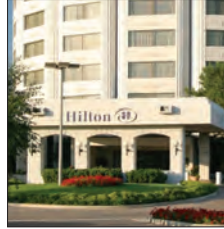
# MAKE THE CONNECTION SUMMIT & O.L.U. LAUNCH EVENT SCHEDULE 2016



## **MARCH 19, 2016**

Milwaukee, Wisconsin  
Marriott Courtyard  
Downtown  
9:00am – 3:00pm

300 W. Michigan St.  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin



## **APRIL 16, 2016**

Chicago, Illinois  
Oak Lawn Hilton  
9:00am – 3:00pm

9333 S. Cicero Ave.  
Oak Lawn Illinois



## **APRIL 23, 2016**

Indianapolis, Indiana  
Marriott Indianapolis  
East  
9:00am – 3:00pm

7202 East 21st St.  
Indianapolis, Indiana



## **JUNE 4, 2016**

St. Louis, Missouri  
Marriott St. Louis  
Airport  
9:00am – 3:00pm

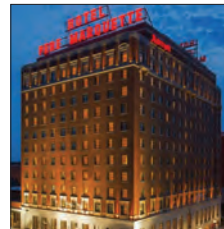
10700 Pear Tree Lane  
St. Louis, Missouri



## **AUG 20, 2016**

Northwest Indiana  
Life Point Church  
9:00am – 3:00pm

7350 Kennedy Ave.  
Hammond, Indiana



## **SEPT 10, 2016**

Central Illinois  
Marriott Pere'  
Marquette  
9:00am – 3:00pm

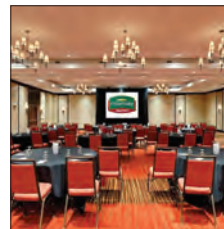
501 Main Street  
Peoria, Illinois



## **OCT 15, 2016**

Central Iowa  
Marriott Downtown  
9:00am – 3:00pm

700 Grand Avenue  
Des Moines, Iowa



## **NOV 12, 2016**

Northeast Indiana  
Marriott Courtyard  
Downtown  
9:00am – 3:00pm

1150 S. Harrison St.  
Fort Wayne, Indiana



## #1 Watch

Make The Connection with Pastor Titus Lee  
Sundays at 9:30pm— TLN Channel 138

## #2 Listen

to Make The Connection with Pastor Titus Lee  
Sundays at 10:00pm – WGRB 1390AM or iheart radio

## #3 View/Listen

to Five Minutes of Fire anytime at [www.connectiontv.net](http://www.connectiontv.net).  
Current Messages: "Living in the Lordship of Jesus",  
"Behind Bars and Beyond Walls", "Leaders Eat Leftovers"

## #4 Partner

Your prayers and gifts enable us to continue to make difference! As we expand into new spiritual doors please stand with us in faith for souls to be saved and the youth of our cities to be transformed. You may visit [www.connectiontv.net](http://www.connectiontv.net) and give today.





## **WORSHIP WITH US IN CHICAGO!**

**Southside Worship Center A/G**

**Pastor Titus and Nedra Lee**

[www.sswcenter.org](http://www.sswcenter.org)

### **Worship Services**

Sundays 8:00am & 11:00am

Wednesdays at 11:00am &  
7:00pm

### **Word Workout Wednesdays**

Summer Teaching Series:

"The Ingredients of Greatness" &  
"Lessons for Leaders"

### **Dynamic Children & Youth Programs!**

- Royal Rangers • Missionettes
- Children's Church
- SOY Youth Group

### **Save These Dates!**

- Men's Conference - June 17th-18th
- Children's Bible Blast - July 19th-21st
- Family Fest - August 26th-28th
- Church Anniversary - September 25th







**Operation Link-Up, Inc**  
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### **CALL US AT ANYTIME FOR PRAYER!**

We believe that God is concerned about you and your family. Always remember that the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous person avails much (James 5:13). If you have a youth in need of our mentoring services visit our website at [www.olumentoring.org](http://www.olumentoring.org)! If you need a word of hope be sure to view 5 Minutes of Fire with Pastor Titus Lee today log onto [www.connectiontv.net](http://www.connectiontv.net)!

Or Current Occupant