

National Ministers Convention Saturday 12th November 2011

Our National Ministers Convention was held at the Church of God building in Long Lane, Halesowen. We were privileged to have our World Mission Secretary, Bishop Robert J. Hawkins Jnr. and his wife Melissa Hawkins with us at our Convention.

Our National Overseer, Philip Bennett opened the Convention by welcoming everyone to the event. The theme of the Convention was taken from St. John 9:4, “***I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day...***”

After a scripture reading from St. John 9:1-7 we dedicated the Convention to God with a concert prayer. Each Auxiliary Secretary did a grand job in promoting their auxiliaries. The **Assembly Band Movement [ABM]** Secretary, Wilhelmina Brown boosted the ABM theme “***One Goal***” and encouraged the Band Leaders to be faithful even when dealing with difficult members. The **Victory Leaders Band** Secretary, Claudine Brown spoke on her theme, “***Unmoveable, Unshakeable.***” She gave us an account of a tree stump in her uncle’s garden which refused to be uprooted despite the effort of various family members with tools including a pick axe and a chainsaw. She encouraged us to be like the stump, ‘*unmoveable*’.

A Family Camp boost was given by brothers Jason and Rikki Prince. They spoke of the unity and fellowship experienced at Camp and encouraged as many as possible to attend.

The **Sunday school** boost by Ray Prince was based on the theme “***Walk in the Light.***” He stated that Sunday school was for every member and spoke of the blessings from the recent lessons we had been studying.

The Pastors encouraged us to work and to be faithful emphasising that there is a work for every member and that there should be no unemployed members in the Church, as the ‘*fields are white and ready to harvest.*’

This was followed by a message from Bishop Hawkins. He spoke on unity and oneness, emphasising the great work that can be accomplished when we are united. Scriptures used included Ecclesiastes 4:9. He stated that we needed one another and when we are together, the anointing would flow.

In the afternoon session we had the **Church of Prophecy Marker Association** and **Bible Training Institute** boosts by the National Director, Stuart Brown. He spoke on the themes: “***Unity of Purpose – Having the Same Mind***” and “***Doers of the word,***” and encouraged us to study and to learn everything we could about the identity and nature of the Church.

A boost for the **Evangelism Department** was given by Jason Prince. He outlined his desire to go to areas that we had not gone into before to bring the gospel and the Church to a lost world. Scriptures used included: St. Luke 4: 40 and St. Mark chapter 6.

The **Women's Missionary Band's** boost, based on the theme "**Always Abounding**" was presented by Deborah Brown, as the National Director, Claudia Prince was not able to attend. Again we were encouraged to work with reference to 1 Corinthians 15:58.

Our National Overseer spoke on the Convention theme, encouraging us to work while we have the day. Scriptures used included: St. Matthew 9:35 - 38, Jeremiah 12:5 and Acts 19:13 – 20. He made reference to Gideon's army and how God whittled them down from 32,000 men to 300, but won the battle with these men who '*made the cut.*'

Throughout the day we had outstanding singing by groups from the churches in Long Lane, Druids Heath and the National Choir directed by Jacqueline Davis.

During the alter call one member was baptised with the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking with tongues. To God be the glory for His presence with us throughout the Convention.