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FOREVER FAMILIA CONNECT

Official Newsletter for Tabernacle of God Church



Fania Camacho Story

My testimony is about God's redemption, God's love is greater than any sins. God is able to redeem and restore any area in our lives when we surrender it to Him. I didn't grow up in a gospel home. I didn't know my self-worth and identity, and I struggled with many insecurities. By the time I was 16 years old, I was sexually active and then I became pregnant. During that time my father was not present in my



life although my mother loved me, our worldview about life and pregnancy was not based on the truth of God. Abortion was an acceptable option, and I sadly made the choice of ending my pregnancy. The experience that I went through after having the abortion was painful and traumatic physically, emotionally, and spiritually even though I didn't realize it at that moment. It was a season filled with fear, anger, guilt, and shame which drove me to depression, and then I got deeper into my sin. At the age of 29, my eyes were opened to the love of God, and I received the precious gift of salvation through Jesus Christ, despite my past! Although I knew I was forgiven, I didn't realize that I carried the shame of abortion even as a Christian. Years later, I felt compelled to share my testimony. As I expose the lies of the enemy God delivered me and healed me in ways that I didn't even know that I needed healing from. That healing has overflowed in it and has given me the courage to actively advocate for the lives of the unborn and to be intentional about serving women that have gone through the same situation. Not only has God redeemed me and restored me but turned something as awful as an abortion into a testimony of hope for other women.

For the last five months, I've had the great privilege to volunteer at a local pregnancy crisis center as a mentor for pregnant women! In this short time of volunteering, I've seen God's kindness over these women in the most beautiful ways. However, the last time I volunteered I found myself struggling with not wanting to go because I was so tired. While I was there my trainer asked me why I was volunteering, and I shared a bit of my abortion story. A couple of hours later she approached me, and she shared with me that she also had gotten an abortion as a teenager, and she never shared it with any other person. This woman is 62 years old! I got to share the love of Jesus Christ with her and speak life over her. I was completely undone by His kindness and by the lives we're able to touch for His kingdom. When we say yes to His desires and if that wasn't enough, at that same moment she approached me. I was second-guessing myself about being there. We serve such a mighty God that is able to Forgive and Restore, the most broken places of our lives. But also, a God that will use us for His Glory!

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Calvin Mason Story

My wife (Karen) and I have been attending Tabernacle of God Church for about 8 months and we appreciate the generous and inviting "reach outs" we have received. Years ago, I would drive past the church and notice people parking across the street at the school. As a former high school teacher, I was delighted to see how a school was accommodating the church and I also remember being concerned about safety as people walked across the street. When Karen and I were transitioning from our previous church, I noticed the 9:30 am English service announcement on the marquee in front of the church.



I told Karen I would like to visit and she agreed. Karen is fluent in Spanish and I can do ok when spoken slowly-my fallback is no comprendo. My first Wednesday small group was when Pastor Tito was leading. He would present a topic/scripture passage for discussion. After his introduction, he would break us up into groups to collaborate on a personal level. This engaging cooperative group approach for informal discussion built unique relationships among our group members. I think people want to feel safe when they share their personal thoughts/struggles/concerns, and small groups is one way of establishing and building personal trust relationships.

The small group experience allows me to get to know others on a more informal and intimate level that is different from the formal greeting and acquaintance made during Sunday services. I was even welcomed back after spilling my iced coffee on the floor after a Wednesday small group that's when I knew that you are all cool! LoL The Wednesday video Truth Project series and Maria's scheduled zoom meetings when we discuss Pastor Tito's sermons are great midweek get together as a church family. The discussion and prayer time is refreshing and encouraging. The connection point fellowships are cool and offer an opportunity to establish and build relationships in an informal setting. The time Karen and I had at the church picnic last summer and the recent potluck was great. Eating and some friendly game competition were fun. We were able to have a conversation and learned more about each other. Hopefully, others learned more about us as well. Sitting down and getting to know Jimmy and Isaac better at the potluck was fantastically great for me. We are thankful for Forever Familia and look forward to building relationships and getting integrated into the mission & vision of our new church!

NEXT STEPS: If you want to find out about our next Small Group or any Connection Points, make sure to visit our website and select the CALENDAR button. Or you can visit www.tabernacleofgod.church/calendar.



Mark Jones Story

Finding TGC was a true blessing! During the beginning of the lockdowns in 2020 I prayed to God to help me find a church because many had closed their doors. Just days later the Lord provided me with a video of one of Pastor Tito's sermons. I quickly realized God had answered my prayer with not just a church, but also a forever family and a mentor! Pastor Tito challenges his worshipers to dig deeper into the word of God. How to



examine the context in which it is written and how to view it both on the macro and micro levels. Most importantly how it pertains to having a personal relationship with the Lord. Even though I live across the country from TGC's location, its online ministry allows for engagement with other members and its Pastors, including his wife, Alisha. Recently I was also able to meet Pastor Tito in person when he came to California for his doctoral program, another blessing I'm eternally thankful for. God bless this church, its forever familia, and its leaders!

NEXT STEPS: If you have yet to connect in person, you can be our guest on Sundays at 9:30 am, 13302 Lynn Rd, Tampa, FL 33625. If you cannot come in person you can join Mark and others long distance Forever Familia members by connecting through Facebook or YouTube. Search @tgcfamilia in both to connect online! Also, make sure to share the sermon/services with others! Who knows if God can use you to reach the next "Mark Jones" online!

You can rewatch any sermon by visiting our MEDIA page online, our Youtube (@tgcfamilia). You can also listen to Pastor Tito Sotolongo on his person Spotify or Youtube (search his name).

To desire revival... and at the same time to neglect (personal) prayer and devotion is to wish one way and walk another. — A.W. Tozer

Theme for 2023: PRAYER

SERMON ARCHIVE

The screenshot shows the website interface for Tabernacle Church. At the top, it says 'TABERNACLE CHURCH'. Below that are navigation links: Español, Sermons / Sermones, Online / Virtual, Giving / Ofrendar, Contact Us / Contáctanos, and English. The main content area features a large graphic for 'NEW YEAR PRAYER' with the subtitle 'ORACIÓN PARA UN NUEVO AÑO'. To the right, there is a section for 'Overflow / Rebosar' dated 1/17/2023, with a 'SUBSCRIBE TO PODCAST' button.

Catch up or Review - www.tabernacleofgod.church/media



Coming Together as ONE body through Christ

By Jamie Reed



When we put our trust in our Lord, we can do all things through Christ that strengthens us for those who believe in Him. I love this passage in the scripture in Philippians- 4:13, and I titled this writing the way I did, because on March 19th, 2023.

At the church before the service we had to go and pray with Pastor Tito, and everyone that served was inside as well. We were talking about how we should work together as a team and come together as one body through Christ. Earlier that week, me and others that I serve with on Sundays went to the Escape Room and we had to work as a team to figure out the puzzles to be able to go to the next room and escape. We did a good job escaping the first room by working together and combining as a team, even though we failed to escape in time. Although we lost as a team I still felt like we accomplish something important because we learned to value each other and patiently motivate one another to do our best.

My favorite part about God is how truly patient He is with us, and how very forgiving He truly is with us. I just want to say you are loved, and that you have a church family that loves you and wants to see you grow more through the love of Jesus our Lord and Savior. You have a community at the Tabernacle of God Church that wants to pray for you and to see you through it and walk you through it. When we come together with Christ at the center we can accomplish more together on our way to our eternal destination through the power of the Holy Spirit than we could ever do alone. Knowing that helps us to have hope knowing that everything we do will be worth it in the end as we each point to a worthy Savior together.



www.tabernacleofgod.church

Make sure to visit our website and select the BLUE CIRCLE on the bottom right-hand corner to take your NEXT STEP in finding your place in our church family.

I'M NEW

PRAYER WALL

GIVING

JOIN A TEAM