

CD a family affair

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said.
Thompson said she's thrilled with the direction that gospel music is going in these days, becoming a more mainstream genre.

"I think that it's great that people are really embracing gospel music. The music is giving people what they are looking for. It's comforting to know that brighter days are coming," she said.

Want to go?
What: LeJeune Thompson recording session
When: New Life Fellowship Center, 1337 Samuel St.
Where: Doors open at 6 p.m., concert begins at 7 p.m.

Determination to praise God

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important than doing great things "for" God?

Rather than remembering, to speak about God only occasionally or merely on the Sabbath, David plans to promote Him day by day.

Sometimes we fool ourselves into thinking that we will do great things for God "someday." That usually is neither necessary nor valuable. Daily consistency in small things will win out in the long run. Daily prayer is a start. Following that, we may make it our goal to speak to one person today about Jesus Christ. This could be very low key—perhaps a comment like, "I am grateful to God for my family." Such conversation starters may not seem like much, but God can use them to do great things. Do not let another day go by without publicly praising and blessing the name of God.

When David said he would praise God "for ever and ever," he was emphasizing that God's greatness will last forever. His reign is eternal. There also may be a hint here of a confidence in life beyond the grave for God's people. At the very least David was declaring that as long as he was able, he would sing God's praises.

A Continuing Legacy of Praise to God (Psalm 145:3-7)
3. What is the foundational reason God should be praised (v. 3)?

David had declared his intention to praise God. He now began to explain why.

The foundational reason God should be praised is that He is great. "Greatness" is one of those common terms that is very difficult to define precisely. It refers to something of size and magnitude. A great person is someone of importance. As the Creator and Sustainer of the universe and the Lord of all, God is, of course, great beyond measure and most worthy of our praise.

We cannot discuss all the depths of God's greatness because He is infinite in His being and in the exercise of all His attributes. As finite creatures, we cannot hope to fully fathom who He is. There will always be more to discover.

4. How does one get to know about God's mighty acts (vs. 4-6)?

Part of the unsearchable

greatness of God is that it continues longer than any one lifetime. On through the generations, His mighty acts continue.

Communication of God's greatness must cross from generation to generation. Moses recognized how important this task was in his own day (see Deuteronomy 4:7-9, 11:18-21).

God's works are so wonderful that those who love Him feel compelled to speak about them. This includes instilling a love for God in the next generation. Nothing is more important to believing parents than seeing their children know and love the Lord. We also seek to perpetuate God's praise by witnessing to those around us. We are to declare God's acts even to those who are blinded to Him.

African church on a mission

Continued from page 5B

Fifty miles north of Dallas, the church is building a multimillion-dollar national headquarters and conference complex on more than 600 acres of farm land in rural Floyd, Texas. The site is expected to draw thousands of followers for marathon prayer meetings.

Yet the center of the North American push is a for-profit, satellite TV network, launched in December under the name Dove Media, which broadcasts sermons from the church's world leader—Pastor Enoch Adeboye—between

reruns of The Dick Van Dyke Show and iBonanza. Dove hopes to attract viewers throughout the continent who would not normally watch Christian TV.

"We didn't bring this church to the United States to be another Nigerian church," said Dove chief executive Ajibike Akinkoye in an interview at the organization's headquarters in the high-tech corridor of greater Dallas. "We are afraid with the way things are going in the world and in America—allowing people to do what they like, creating their own

religion and philosophy—those people are going to pay for it. We don't want that to happen."

The United States, with its deep religiosity, seems an unlikely mission ground. But the Redeemed Church believes Christianity here has become a lifestyle, not a transforming way of life, and they feel obliged to act. "There is a vibrancy in Africa," Akinkoye said. "We are offering that gift back to America."

Other Nigerian pastors are close behind. Sunday Adelaja, who founded the now 30,000-member Embassy of the Blessed Kingdom of God for All Nations in Kiev, Ukraine in 1994, has 15 offshoots in this country. He plans to open 250 more within a decade.

Jonathan Owhe started Christ the Rock World Restoration Church in 1995 in New York's Brooklyn borough, then branched out to Tennessee and Georgia, then overseas to Sri Lanka, India, Pakistan and other countries.

"It's globalization happening to the church," said the Rev. Ted Haggard, president of the U.S. National Association of Evangelicals.

Preservation of records

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For more information contact Preserve Pro Inc at (704) 995-0731 or email preservepro@earthlink.net

April 29

Addie L. Robinson Ministries of Philadelphia will host a Holy Ghost Boot Camp Spiritual Warfare Conference at the Ramada Limited, 7900 Nations Ford Road at 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. For more information call (215) 574-7888 or log on to www.addierobinson.com.

May 15

True Way Church of God in Christ will host its annual men's Conference through May 17. The church is located at 2931 James Road.

May 27

Tickets for JoyFest '06, a gospel showcase of praise and song, are on sale.

The concert is scheduled to take place at the Padiam Amphitheatre at Paramount's Carowinds. The concert features Stellar Award winner Deitrick Haddon, winner. Also appearing are Tye Tribbett & Greater Anointing, Cross Movement and Serenity, a group from Charlotte.

Advance tickets and discount tickets for season pass members are available at through Ticketmaster by calling (704) 522-6500, by logging on to www.ticketmaster.com or at any Ticketmaster outlet. Discounted tickets for groups of 15 or more, including a group picnic option, are available by calling Paramount's Carowinds at 1-800-888-4FUN (4386). All prices are slightly higher on the day of the event.

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