

DR. ERIC D. JACKSON, SR.

BIOGRAPHY

Dr. Jackson, a native of Alexandria, Louisiana, currently resides in University Place. He's married to Rev. Evette Jackson, and they have two sons, Omari and Eric, II.

After serving for several years, he was licensed and ordained at Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church, in Norcross, Georgia, by Bishop Dr. William Sheals. He went on to serve as Assistant to the Pastor, Youth Pastor, and Singles' Pastor at The Greater Piney Grove Baptist Church, in Atlanta, Georgia.

He was the founding pastor of the Greater Heights Christian Church in Lithonia, Georgia, where he served for 8 years. After leaving Georgia, he served as the senior pastor of the Gospel Congregation in Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. Prior to 2014, Dr. Jackson resided in Ewa (pronounced 'ěva') Beach, Hawaii (the Island of Oahu), while serving a tour of duty at Schofield Barracks and Fort Shafter. He now serves as senior pastor of Bethlehem Baptist Church in Tacoma. Additionally, Pastor Jackson's ministry has reached abroad, as well; he's taken pilgrimages throughout Israel and done missionary work in Haiti.

In 2003, Pastor Jackson earned a Master of Divinity degree (cum laude), with a concentration in Psychology of Religion and Pastoral Care and completed additional course work in Homiletics, at Morehouse School of Religion at the Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC) in Atlanta. In 1992, he received a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in Computer Information Systems from the University of Louisiana. Pastor Jackson returned to the academy, and in May 2012, he earned a Doctor of Ministry degree (summa cum laude) at the ITC, where he specialized in Pastoral Counseling. (Dissertation: "Bridging the Gap between Sunday in the Combat Zone and Sunday at Home: Case Study: The Intersection of War, PTSD, and Pastoral Care & Counseling for Soldiers and their Families").

Dr. Jackson has spent over 29 years in the military – over 24 years as an officer. From 2007 to 2008, Pastor Jackson completed a tour of duty in Iraq, where he ministered to hundreds of Soldiers on a weekly basis and trained over 50 ministers – two of which were licensed into the Gospel ministry. Upon completion of his tour, he became an Army Chaplain. He has also served in this capacity in the local chapter of his fraternity, Alpha Phi Alpha. Likewise, he was certified by the Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police as a police chaplain. Additionally, Dr. Jackson is a preacher, teacher, speaker, poet, and the author of *Good News From On High!*

My personal mission is to educate, empower, and encourage all people – both young and mature, “churched” and “un-churched,” laypersons and ministers. With such a love for people, I have devoted my life to God’s service and people. Consequently, I believe Associated Ministries will provide better opportunities to minister to and help those who are less fortunate and often forgotten.

My background and experience has afforded me the opportunity to work in ecumenical settings and organizations and with a very pluralistic array of people, and I believe AM has like goals and would make a great partner in the ministry – especially in our City of Destiny.

My hopes for AM in the next few years is to continue to cross denominational barriers and more intentionally diversify the organization and thus its agendas and perspective on those who are marginalized the most, as we collectively build a more resilient community.