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Pastors Challenged to Become “Commanding Communicators”

Bishop T.D. Jakes’ Pastors’ and Leadership Conference focuses on speaking

Dallas, October 13, 2003 – More than 6,000 pastors and leaders from all over the globe left Bishop T. D. Jakes’ 8th annual Pastors’ and Leadership Conference Saturday ready to be “Commanding Communicators,” in their local churches. During the four-day long event, participants attended power packed sessions to teach them how to communicate effectively. The first day featured a general session with Bishop Jakes who titled his teaching “Before you Speak.”

“Before you speak you must know your audience,” Bishop Jakes said to a packed crowd of pastors and leaders. “Until you sit where the people sit, feel what they feel, do not speak a word. Every time you open your mouth to speak something should happen.”

After the first general session the conference schedule was packed with opportunities for pastors and leadership to move deeper into the Word of God. These sessions, which included such topics as “Motivating Your Staff,” “Speaking to the Media,” “When Women Speak,” “Ministering to the Hearing Impaired” and “The Multilingual Ministry,” challenged attendees to become better communicators using principles from the Word of God.

“Change takes place when a woman prays,” said Pastor Rita Twiggs, who will be celebrating 25 years of ministry this month, referring to Esther in the Old Testament during her Friday morning session, “When Women Speak.” “God needs some praying women and some provoking women today. When a women opens her mouth for God things happen.”

Dr. Ron Elmore, also a speaker for Bishop Jakes’ God’s Leading Ladies Conference tour, addressed attendees Saturday morning about “Developing Communication Skills for Stronger Relationships.” The conference climaxed with Bishop Jakes’ general session entitled “Command the Officers.” He spoke to the pastors in this session about building a team of Godly members who are accountable and have a vision for the local church to help them accomplish God’s plan for their congregation.

“Someone has what you need. You must exhaust every measure before the vision and dream are affected,” Bishop Jakes expressed in his closing session. “Failure is not an option because the original instructions come from God who supplies all of your needs.”

Bishop Jakes is the senior pastor of the 28,000 member Potter’s House church – one of the fastest growing churches in the nation. He is an international evangelist, best-selling author, Grammy-nominated recording artist and critically acclaimed playwright. He was dubbed America’s Best Preacher by *Time* magazine in September 2001.