

## The Year of Champions

On Sunday, December 30, 2018, Apostle Leander Robinson presented the theme for 2019 – It's Time!! -- To Focus on the Family! 2019 will be an exciting year for Covenant Warriors. For us, this year is to be a year of completion and perfecting excellence. This is another year of much going on; continued warfare and much pressing. This is a purposed year, where much focus will be required. Through the leading of our Apostle, the Lord has revealed the driving focus for us this year – FAMILY. Yes, indeed, Family is Key at CWCC!

2019 will hold many changes for this local body and for our individual families. We are collectively witnessing the completion of our new edifice and will partake of our promised "seat in our new sanctuary." We are witnessing the faithfulness of the Lord in birthing a Word in us and then seeing it through to completion. **Phil 1:6** NIV "*being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.*" We are to carry the lessons we have gained from this process into our individual lives and apply them in the pursuit of our personal goals. My sensing is that the Lord is moving mightily in the areas of Family, Service, and Community. There is also an entrepreneurial shift this year. Focused efforts in these arenas will generate a great reward.

At the end of November in 2018, as I thought back on all that we had witnessed in the year and contemplated the coming year, I heard the Lord say, "The Year of Inconvenience." On Sunday, December 02, as Apostle Robinson taught from the message subtitled "It's Time... To Deny Self," I heard the Lord again repeat these words, "The Year of Inconvenience." The Lord went on to say that 2019 was to be "A Year of Focused Inconvenience." In this year, we will lay hold of that which we purpose ourselves to capture. Even in our tiredness and busyness, we are to focus ourselves on service to family, service to the Kingdom and house of God, service to our communities – where we are to be a visible light and a beacon into His house, service to our entrepreneurial pursuits and goals, and services to our individual selves to ensure we are healthy of mind, body, and spirit. This is not an inconvenience that results from a lack of planning and attention to detail, but it is a level of focused planning made purposeful through attention to all the details of our lives.

The number 19 has the scriptural significance for the Lord's perfect order in judgement. According to 'The Biblical Meaning of Numbers,' the number 19 represents Faith and Hearing. It is a focus on, not just the hearing of the Word but, a Faith-response to the Word. This is a year to ensure that you are positioned to hear the Word, but even more important than that, this is a year to be Doers. We should be expecting to be changed through the hearing and application of the Word carried forward in the House and in our Wednesday night sessions this year.

On Saturday, January 12, 2019, during Intercessory Prayer the Lord opened this vision before me:

*There is a glass case with its doors standing open. There are shelves containing trophies of all sizes. A Hand reaches into the case and is wiping off the shelves, occasionally removing a trophy and holding it up in admiration while polishing the trophy. The trophies that are displayed and even the ones that are being polished, do not appear to be dusty or contain any rust. Their gold plating gleams brightly. The Hand selects more trophies to admire and then carefully places them back on the shelf. Finally, the Hand closes the doors to the case.*

My sensing during this vision was of one looking on with fondness and pleasure. Covenant Warriors, the Lord looks upon us with judgment and has found us faithful. We didn't stop; we didn't give up; we didn't quit faith...and the result of this is victory! This is a year of Champions. The Lord has us on display this year. We are prized members of His trophy case, and we have brought Him much glory.

Last year, the Lord commanded that we Charge the finish line. We stayed in the fight and finished that leg of the race. Now, as Finishers, we enter this phase of newness as Champions. This year is to be a "Finisher's reward." It is not a time to ease back on the throttle or think that our fight is finished. This is a time of polishing...perfecting our standards of excellence. It is a time of exposure – exposing wounds and areas that need healing in ourselves and our families that have held us back, as well as being on display in our communities. It is a time of strengthening and refining our faith-muscles as we prepare for this new race before us. This a time endurance, sacrifice, and enthusiasm. Covenant Warriors, this is the year of Champions, and we be that. The Lord assures us that we are well-suited to the task.