

YMROP – A Request to All to Respond

Good morning to my church family and friends,

Please say with me, “**Y.M.R.O.P. – You Make Responding Our Priority.**” These letters **Y-M-R-O-P** and those words are also applicable to the **Young Men Rites Of Passage** Program. The goal and continued mission of the Young Men Rites of Passage program is to provide young men with a safe environment to laugh, ask questions and to receive guidance spiritually and otherwise as well as acquire life skills from tying a tie to preparing a vision board to help them with preparing for their future, while interacting with their peers and program mentors.

I am here today first of all to say, “Thank you” to all who have responded in previous years whether physically, financially and/or through prayerful support of the Young Men Rites of Passage planned sessions with our young men who are either between the ages of 9 – 12 or 13 – high school graduation; or our promoted events either at the church building or other locations; or progress and achievement acknowledgement occasions such as our culmination and graduation celebration in June.

I request parents, grandparents, and/or guardians to respond to this appeal by speaking with and then signing up your young man or your men by our official start date of **October 16, 2021** to be a part of YMROP for the 2021 – 2022 season. Please put this date on your calendar. If this will be their first time with us, we welcome you. If you were a part of the program but stopped at some point, we welcome you back and look forward to you being with us once again.

I request those who do not have young men in your home at this time, to do two things. Our first response request is for you to encourage young men in your extended family circles, neighborhoods or communities to sign up to be a part of YMROP. Secondly, I ask you to consider being a financial sponsor to a young man or young men for the 2021 – 2022 season which will start in a couple of weeks. We want as many young men to participate in the program and your financial support can be an important part to make that happen.

I must pause to request all to respond with a commitment to pray with and for us that this will be an awesome year for YMROP. We praise God that in spite of all that transpired in the last two years, we were able to celebrate 5 High School graduates in 2020 and 6 in 2021 who were part of our program. We extend an early invitation to all to be in attendance for our next culmination and graduation celebration at the end of the 2021 – 2022 season on **Saturday, June 25th, 2022**, God willing. Please place this date on your calendar as well.

We appreciate the fact that you understand and are willing to fulfill the quote that “It takes a village to raise a child” by making this a priority for all of us. I close with a thanks in advance on behalf of the Director of the YMROP Program and the other mentors, for each one of you who make responding to any or all of the requests which I mentioned - our collective priority.

God bless.