The Black Church

What does the black church mean? Black church is genesis of black faith in the united state from 1619-1874. Dr. Charles says, that Christianity is not only a western believe but it was also a religion that African people had. He argues that Christianity entered to the African countries through music, dance, poetry, folk tales, rituals, proverbs, stories and historical accounts. He says that in the beginning, the black church was called "invisible institution". Because black people were allowed to make gathering in there, for the purpose of worshiping and they have to worship in hide. The black church meant community for the black people, in the beginning. And there were people who could not get married and they could go the invisible institution that was the black church to get marry. The first African Baptist church in the united state located in the Georgia, the Virginia, and South Carolina. Richard Allen was the first founder of the African Methodist episcopal church. The black Museum that is located in the Washington DC has a Bible that most of the verses have been cut off that talks about freedom and antislavery. During the antebellum period black people joined in a large number to the churches especially to the Methodist and Baptist churches. And these churches framed the structure of education. In these churches there were low hierarchy. It means that you did not need for another bishop to make you a bishop but you could just organize yourself and become a church. Songs had a great role in the black church tradition. In the prophetic period there was three things that were important. Those things are: the pastors become more educated, the life and legacy of Martin Luther King Jr, and the introduction to the liberal theology to the society. These churches are the first sources of the HBCU that means Historical Black Colleges and Universities developments. Martin Luther King was the only pastor and a Christian leader that represents these churches in the United States. In the period that is called the muted message from 1976 to 2020 the connection of people and these churches are

becoming week. Many young people in the black community have no connection to the church or the history of African American preaching. So, today black churches need to be relearnt by the young generation. There are some distinctive of the black churches, that are: the bible and what the bible says about teaching, black church, and elements of the African American culture. The other is the pastor that says the pastors are biblical interpreters, cultural teachers, prophetic agents, storytellers, and spiritual educators. All these distinctions can be found in a historical black church foundation. [1]

[1] The Black Church feat by Dr. Charles Galbreath.