

TRIBUTE TO OUR BELOVED
Bishop, Pastor, Dr. and Friend
ADEWUMI ADESINA





IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Bishop, Pastor, Dr.

ADEWUMI ADESINA

"A shepherd, a mentor, a father in the faith, and a beacon of hope to countless souls."

Founder, Essence Christian Church

Founder & Chancellor, Kingdom Diplomats University

*A Compilation of Tributes
from Family, Friends, and the Body of Christ*

Tributes

Words of Love, Faith, and Remembrance



Pastor Dr. Babatunde & Dr. Aderonke Aderonmu & Family

Today as we grieve his loss and celebrate the life of Bishop Adewumi Adesina, we also admire the incredible life he lived for Christ. Despite our understanding of the inevitable of death, it is difficult to accept the transition, especially when the soul in question is our symbol of love, father, husband, friend, Pastor, uncle, mentor, Bishop Dr. Adewumi Adesina.

I had the opportunity to have known Bishop Adewumi Adesina since around 2003 when Divine Wrestler and One Hour with the Lord was established. We prayed together for 12 years online without seeing each other face to face until we met in Atlanta, GA for his ordination in July 2015, and we have been very close since then. The early days of Divine Wrestlers — our Saturday online prayer program — he would always open the prayer room so he could coordinate the programme for the day. He loves the Lord with his whole heart, loves people, and is very generous.

After establishing his own ministry, Essence Christian Church, he never stopped participating in both Divine Wrestler and One Hour with the Lord. Bishop Adewumi Adesina was a great ambassador for Christ — always available to help others, not only Church members but anyone in need, whether spiritual or financial. He would not start what he could not finish.

Bishop Adewumi Adesina had unwavering faith. He drove 3 hours with his wife to pray for me when I was admitted in the hospital. He encouraged my wife in her academic career and inspired her to enroll at Kingdom Diplomats University, always saying, "Mummy you can do it."

Bishop Adewumi Adesina was not just an accomplished individual but a humble, loving father and husband. His warm smile and gentle spirit could light up any room. He had an innate ability to connect people, offering friendship, guidance, and encouragement.

The day you left us, you spoke with me and my wife in the early hours, hoping to see us at UVA hospital in Charlottesville to pray for my nephew who had just had a surgery procedure. Bishop, as I always called you — Rest in peace. "On the Resurrection Morning, Soul and Body meet Again, No more sorrow, No more weeping, No more pain." I pray that the Lord strengthen your wife, daughters, the entire Adesina family both here and in Nigeria, to bear the loss — including the Churches and Kingdom Diplomats University you left behind. In Jesus Christ's Name. Amen.

Yusuf Family

Today we honor the life and legacy of Pastor Adewumi Adesina, a person whose faith, wisdom, and kindness touched so many lives. Your words brought comfort during difficult times, your prayers gave people strength, and your presence made people feel seen and loved.

You were more than a pastor — you were a leader, mentor, and servant of God who dedicated your life to helping others. The impact you made on this church, this community, and everyone blessed enough to know you will never be forgotten.

Though our hearts are heavy, we thank God for the memories, lessons, and love you shared with us. Your legacy will continue to live on through the lives you changed and the faith you inspired in others.

Rest peacefully, Pastor Adewumi Adesina. You fought the good fight, kept the faith, and finished your race with honor.

Pastor (Dr) Joel Sunday Awe (JP)

I find it pretty difficult to come to the reality that my childhood friend, my beloved brother, my fellow servant of God, my professional colleague is gone. Very painful to my own bone marrow.

Iku doro, iku nika. Your death has taken away my sleep. Ha, o mase o. Iku iba gbowo, sebi a ba fun lowo... What a great loss!

I can remember how you came to join me at School of Nursing and how you lived with me briefly and PEACEFULLY before you got your own accommodation. We shared so many things in common — you did your RPON at OAUTH, Ife; I did mine at UCH, Ibadan. You were the most effective Social Secretary of our Club when I was the Chairman.

God Almighty has encouraged me to emulate and admire some good and diligent people in life. Adewumi happens to be one of them. I always think within myself: if Adewumi can combine his career with the Ministry, I can also do the same. If Adewumi can have career progression (MSc, PhD, etc.) whilst working full time, I can also do the same. This has really helped me to be who I am today. Glory be to God.

Adeumi as I always called you with the Ipoti dialect — I say good night to you: a spiritual giant, a diligent worker, and first amongst equals. You came, you fought, and you conquered. Your legacies live on. Glory be to God Almighty. God will comfort your wife, children, families, the body of Christ, and we, your friends.

Rest in perfect peace, my dear good friend. We shall meet on the Resurrection morning.

Abimbola Oni

“Your uncle is loaded” — that was one of your favourite lines to us, and hearing it now brings both laughter and tears. It’s hard to accept that you were taken from us so quickly. I still can’t fully comprehend it.

I didn’t come here to say goodbye, because I know you’ll always be with us — teaching, guiding, and watching over us, just as you always loved to do. Thank you for everything you gave to us, and especially for Aunty Shiney. I will forever be grateful for the lessons and memories you left behind.

I hope you run into Lola out there and spend time reminiscing about the good old days — like starting a church in the living room. Those memories will stay with us forever.

You may be gone from our sight, but never from our hearts. You will forever live in mine.

Bukky Asade

Today, I honor and remember a truly remarkable servant of God, a loving bishop and pastor whose life was a reflection of faith, humility, compassion, and unwavering dedication to God’s people. His words brought hope to the discouraged, his prayers strengthened the weak, and his leadership inspired me to walk closer with God.

Bishop was more than a spiritual leader; he was a father, mentor, counselor, and a source of comfort to countless lives, including mine. He served with sincerity, loved without discrimination, and carried the burdens of others with grace. Through his teachings and example, he showed what it means to live a life of purpose, integrity, and service.

Though your departure leaves a deep void in my heart, I find peace knowing that your legacy lives on in the lives you touched, the souls you guided, and the faith you nurtured. Your impact cannot be measured by years alone but by the countless testimonies of transformed lives.

I will forever cherish your kindness, wisdom, and devotion to God's kingdom. Thank you, Bishop, for your sacrifices, your prayers, and your unconditional love. You fought the good fight, kept the faith, and finished your race honorably.

May your gentle soul rest in perfect peace, and may Heaven rejoice at the homecoming of a faithful servant. You will always be remembered, deeply missed, and forever honored.

"Well done, good and faithful servant..." – Matthew 25:23

Benedict Edade

Meeting you was a reminder that true kindness and true leadership still exist and can, in fact, go hand in hand. Your gentle spirit, warm attitude, and genuine care for others reflected the heart of a true pastor. Thank you for the encouragement, wisdom, and grace you showed us so naturally.

Your memory and legacy will continue to live on.

Ayotunde Olaoba

Bishop Adewumi Adesina was a true shepherd — a man of integrity, compassion, and unwavering devotion to God's kingdom. His life reflected the gospel he preached, and his ministry transformed countless lives.

My journey with Bishop began on September 14th, 2016 — the day I learned of my father’s passing. Lost and overwhelmed, I walked into Essence Christian Church for the Bible study and the Bishop was there. He prayed with me, stood with me, and surrounded me with the love of the church. From that moment, he became more than a pastor; he became my spiritual father.

He orchestrated my moving to Virginia, welcomed me into his home like a big brother, and personally drove me to every church programme until I could stand on my feet. Through every challenge, he called, prayed, encouraged, and lifted me. When I lost my mother, he and his wife stood by me again — faithfully checking in, praying, and offering strength.

Bishop lived what he preached. He taught us to honor God, love people, and walk in forgiveness. I will always remember his closing words after every sermon: “Pay no man evil with evil.” “Don’t be bitter, so you can be better.” Those words have shaped my life, my choices, and my walk with God.

Bishop Adewumi Adesina has finished his race with honor. His legacy lives in the lives he touched, the faith he strengthened, and the kingdom he served with all his heart.

To Mummy Pastor, be rest assured that God will be your anchor. He will be the Husband to you and a Father to Seun and Bidemi. His grace will uphold you; His peace will surround you, and His strength will carry you through.

Rest in glory, God’s faithful servant. Your work speaks. Your impact endures. Your crown is sure.



Alice Alawode & Family

It is difficult to put into words what Bishop meant to me and my family, because he was more than a spiritual leader to us. He was a father figure, a source of encouragement, and a blessing to many families, including mine. His kindness, guidance, and willingness to help others reflected the love of Christ in so many ways.

My family will always remember the support, advice, and encouragement he gave us during important moments in our lives. He was always ready to listen, help, and uplift us with patience and love.

His care extended beyond the church walls, and his impact will remain in our hearts forever. We are grateful for the life he lived, the people he touched, and the legacy of faith and compassion he leaves behind.

May God grant him eternal rest and give strength and comfort to his family, the church, and everyone. Rest well, Bishop. You will be greatly missed and lovingly remembered.

Apostle Dr Verniecer H Olatunji & Prophet Dr O Adekola Olatunji

You are a legend. You are a general in the Lord. You are an epitome of ‘agape’ love. Your kindness towards humanity is unconditional. Your display of compassion with a beautiful heart is immeasurable. A man of integrity and joy. A trigger of happiness to the soul of the sorrowful. An instrument that sets the flame of salvation to many souls. A man of peace, full of tolerance and hospitality. A gentle spirit, full of honesty and goodness.

Living no stone unturned in transparency but embracing it as a virtue. God’s general — your generosity and gentle smiles speak volumes in our hearts. It will be hard to forget your loving companionship. It is hard to forget our prayer partnership. We will always remember you in our weekly Tuesday and Thursday prayer meetings and faith clinic.

Your daily calls of love and care every morning have no substitute. Your expression of gratitude in love and faith in oneness with us still burns like a wildfire in our hearts. Beloved, being around you is beyond just a relationship — it is enjoying love, happiness, and blessings.

Bishop! We salute you! We salute you!! We salute you!!! Rest well, beloved.

School of Nursing Akure Ondo State, 1987 Set (SNAK ’87)

Your sudden passing came as a great shock and a deeply painful moment to us, your friends and colleagues. The bond we shared as classmates and lifelong associates remains one of the greatest blessings of our lives.

To our dear friend and colleague, Bishop (Dr.) Adewumi Adesina, thank you for your unwavering kindness, generosity, and for always being someone we could depend on through seasons of trials and challenges. Your presence brought strength, encouragement, and joy to many.

The SNAK '87 Set will never be the same without you. We will forever cherish the memories of our gatherings, especially those humble days when we struggled together and encouraged one another to rise above poverty and hardship. Those moments built friendships and brotherhood that time can never erase.

Dear friend, we never imagined we would lose you so early in life, but who are we to question the will of God? Though your departure leaves a painful void in our hearts, we are grateful for the impactful life you lived and the legacy of love, humility, and service you leave behind.

You will be greatly and sorely missed. Sleep well, Adewumi Adesina. May your gentle soul rest in perfect peace.

Ayo Joel — Akure, Nigeria

Your passing was painful, yet we take solace in God that you knew and loved God. It is a fact that no human is perfect except our Lord Jesus Christ, but you strived for perfection in all you do. You are a General in your own right. I believe you have found your own space amongst God's departed Generals.

Though you lived a short life, it was impactful. Your passing reminds me of what the world's wisest and richest man that ever lived said: "Vanity upon vanity, all is vanity." This world that we are living in is nothing, and what counts is what we do for God whilst we are here. You lived for God, and I believe you have completed your course — that was why God called you home to rest.

Rest on, my brother and in-law.

Essence Christian Church Akure

A General of God is not known merely by title, popularity, or years in ministry, but by impact, sacrifice, obedience, and faithfulness to God's calling.

This scripture perfectly describes the journey of this faithful servant who laboured for the Kingdom until the end. Rest on.

"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith." — 2 Timothy 4:7

Charmaine Bigby-Shakespeare and Winston Shakespeare

Today, we honor and celebrate the life of a true servant of God, Bishop Adesina — a man whose life was poured out in love, faith, humility, and unwavering dedication to the Kingdom of God. Bishop Adesina was more than a preacher; he was a shepherd, a mentor, a father in the faith, and a beacon of hope to countless souls. Through his teachings, prayers, and compassionate spirit, he touched lives across generations and inspired many to walk closer with God.

His voice carried wisdom. His prayers carried power. His presence carried peace.

He served faithfully with integrity and passion, never ceasing to encourage the brokenhearted, strengthen the weak, and point people toward Christ. His life reflected the scripture: "Well done, good and faithful servant."

The seeds Bishop Adesina planted through ministry, worship, counsel, and love will continue to bear fruit for years to come. His legacy lives on in the churches he strengthened, the families he prayed for, the leaders he mentored, and the countless souls he helped bring to Christ.

We thank God for the gift of Bishop Adesina's life. Heaven has gained a faithful soldier, and earth will forever remember his impact. May his memory continue to inspire us to serve God wholeheartedly, love people deeply, and remain steadfast in faith.

Rest in perfect peace, Bishop Adesina. Your labour was not in vain. Your legacy will never be forgotten. We love you always, from Charmaine and Winston Shakespeare and from the Jamaican community.

Elder Louis Idowu for the Idowu Family

We will dearly miss your jovial spirit and your constant intention to bring laughter to those around you — there was never a dull moment in your presence. Your friendliness meant you never met a stranger twice, and your helpfulness knew no bounds; you were always ready to assist with any situation, showing deep care for everyone. Adeo my Bishop — rest in peace.

Elder Oluwole Folorunso Ejiwumi

Today, with heavy hearts but unwavering faith in God, we gather to honor and celebrate the life of Bishop Dr. Adewumi Adesina — a devoted servant of God, a spiritual father, founder of Essence Christian Church, and to me personally, a cherished childhood friend whose life left an indelible mark on everyone privileged to know him.

Though his passing came in such a painful and tragic manner, we remain comforted by the assurance that Bishop Adewumi has finished his earthly assignment and is now resting peacefully in the bosom of our Lord Jesus Christ, where there is no more pain, sorrow, or suffering.

I knew him long before many knew him as ‘Bishop.’ I knew him as a humble, compassionate, sincere, and God-fearing man whose passion for Christ and love for people were evident even from our younger years. Time, position, and responsibility never changed the purity of his heart. He carried grace, wisdom, and kindness in a way that drew people closer not only to him, but ultimately to God.



Bishop Adewumi was more than a preacher behind the pulpit — he was a shepherd who genuinely cared for souls. He listened when people were broken, encouraged when others had given up, prayed when situations seemed impossible, and stood firmly for truth and righteousness. He had a remarkable ability to make everyone feel valued and seen. His words carried power, but his life carried even greater testimony.

As the founder of Essence Christian Church, he poured his heart, strength, and vision into building not just a church, but a family of believers grounded in faith, prayer, love, and resilience. His teachings, sacrifices, and spiritual leadership have left seeds that will continue to grow for generations to come.

To the family, the clergy, the Essence Christian Church Citizens, and every life touched by this great man of God — may the Lord strengthen and comfort us all in this difficult season. While we mourn his absence, we must also celebrate a life that was poured out completely in service to God and humanity.

The enemy may have taken his earthly life, but his legacy, impact, and testimony can never be silenced. Bishop Adewumi fought a good fight, finished his course, and kept the faith.

Bishop, your voice may no longer echo through these walls, but your prayers, teachings, sacrifices, and love will continue to speak in the hearts of countless people across generations. Thank you for your unwavering love, your leadership, your prayers, your counsel, and your dedication to the Kingdom of God. Heaven has gained a faithful soldier.

Rest well, great man of God, until we meet again in glory.

“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.” — 2 Timothy 4:7

Brother Paul Kehinde Osukoya — Philadelphia

Bishop Dr. Adewunmi Adesina — a good shepherd, a dedicated follower of Christ, a man fully devoted to God and mankind. As our founding father and Bishop here at Essence Christian Church, you did not only preach Christ; you embodied Him. You did not leave us the way you met us.

Through your teachings, prayers, and fatherly love, you bettered my life and the lives of many others. Countless souls adopted your motto as their principle for living a good life: “Don’t be bitter, so you can be better.”

My Bishop, your life was a sermon, your love was a shelter, and your faith built this house. I grieve your departure, but I stand on the foundation you laid, and I anchor my hope on these holy scriptures: Matthew 25:21 and 1 Thessalonians 4:14.

Rest in

Kingdom Diplomats University

The passing of our esteemed Founder and Chancellor is a tremendous loss to our Kingdom Diplomats University (KDU) and the academic community at large. He was a visionary leader whose commitment to knowledge, character, humility, kindness, unwavering commitment to education, and service transformed countless lives.

Under his guidance, the university experienced stability and renewed purpose. He believed strongly in education as a tool for empowerment and societal transformation, and he dedicated his life to advancing that noble cause.

His legacy is evident not only in the founding structures and achievements of this institution but also in the lives of students and leaders he mentored and inspired. His wisdom, courage, and steadfast faith will remain an enduring source of motivation to us all.

While we grieve the loss of an exceptional leader and a dear colleague, we take solace in the enduring impact of his work and the countless lives touched.

Our dear founder and chancellor, Rest on! You have fought a good fight. You have laid the foundation. Adieu! Adieu!! Adieu!!!



Pastor Joshua Idowu

The Bishop of Essence Christian Church — he was the one who always inspired us to know the Gospel without a shadow of a doubt. Even if we looked prideful, to him, it was all about the Bible.

Deaconess Lorine Samuels

I met Bishop six years ago, in 2020 — the most loving, caring person I ever met. When I met Bishop, I said: I found a good friend, my brother, a father figure. You filled the void in my life. Bishop is someone I could talk to, share my problems with. He taught me how to pray, how to forgive, how to let go, and let God.

I started my Christian journey with Bishop. He is a true man of God, he loved the Lord, a good preacher, a good pastor, then he became the best bishop ever — loving, kind-hearted, caring; a friend you can rely on and call upon. He is always there.

Bishop always announced to everyone that I am his family everywhere we went. During my grandmother's passing, he did not hesitate. He said: "If you take her to Jamaica for burial, I am there" — and he was there, and he made the announcement again that I am family. He is a part of my family. Everyone loves Bishop.

He took me to Nigeria with his family — which is my family. He introduced me to everyone as his family. Bishop is a great friend, a true man of God. I was sick with COVID. He was there for me. I went to the ER with chest pain; he was right there. When I was diagnosed with a blocked artery, he did not miss one visit. He went to surgery — he was right there. The Bishop prayed, and he said he would start with prayer and we would end with prayer, and he stands on his word.

He was a prayer warrior. Going to Nigeria, I was scared of one word — "gbèṣẹ le" — but when I got there, he told me not to worry, he wouldn't let it happen. I said: "Let what happen?" So he told me what "gbèṣẹ le" is, and then my new name became "gbèṣẹ le."

I could go on and on... He loved my children and my grandchildren, always praying for them. You will be greatly missed. Sadly missed by me and my family. We love you, Bishop Adewumi Adesina.



Pastor Dr. Bimpe (Mrs AdeBimpe Idowu) — Bishop’s Assistant and Church Administrator

Bishop Ade, I thank God I had the privilege to know you. Working for you and with you let me see in action how Christ wants us to have Agape Love for everyone. You threw your entire life into service for God. Always looking for ways to make things better for everyone around you.

You taught us to fearlessly forge ahead with complete abandonment, equipping ourselves and others with the Word of God. Always redirecting us back to the Bible for clarity.

As I think of a suitable verse, many come to mind. Acts 20:24 reflects part of the last few years: “However, I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me — the task of testifying to the good news of God’s grace.”

Thank you for the SOLID foundation you have set. We will continue building!!

Elder Evangelist Agnes

Bishop Dr. Adewumi Adesina, may God wrap your soul in His eternal peace. Your legacy of being a loving ambassador of Christ will be forever cherished. Thank you for your selfless love, wisdom, and guidance in the words of God.

Some wounds may not disappear completely, but we learn to live, heal, and be thankful through them in Christ Jesus. Rest easy, good and faithful servant of God. It is well with your soul in Jesus' name!!!

Lara Ojediran

Bishop Adesina is a devoted man of God who exhibited many of the Lord's divine attributes: goodness, kindness, faithfulness, dedication, singlemindedness, love, patience, joy, steadfastness, and so many more.

I can't believe you are no more here with us in the flesh. However, this is heaven's gain and your humble spirit lives on. Till the resurrection morning, "It's not a goodbye, it's a see you later".

Rest in peace uncle!!!

WE HAVE LOST A GEM

*Tribute in Honour of Our Departed Classmate
Bishop Adewumi Adesina, RN, RPON, MSN, DTH, PhD*

It is with heavy hearts and profound sorrow that we, the 1981 Set of Ipoti High School, Ipoti-Ekiti, alongside the entire Old Students' Association of this great institution, received the news of the passing of our beloved classmate, colleague, brother, and friend, Bishop Adewumi Adesina, who departed on Thursday, May 7, 2026.

His passing has left a deep void in our hearts — one that words can scarcely fill. We however take comfort in the remarkable legacy of service, leadership, and faith he leaves behind. We are also consoled by the assurance that he has gone to rest in the bosom of the Lord whom he served passionately and wholeheartedly throughout his lifetime.

Late Bishop Adewumi, of Essence Christian Church in America, also facilitated the establishment of branches of the church in different parts of Nigeria, including Ipoti and Odo-Owa, Ekiti, where one of our classmates presently serves as a pastor.

Despite residing in America, he never forgot his roots and his alma mater. He remained an active member of the Ipoti High School Old Students' Association, 1981 Set. He contributed generously and substantially toward the construction of the school gate built by his set, in addition to rendering other forms of financial assistance to the association. He was one of the pillars and a distinguished ambassador of the set.

He was also the only Bishop with a doctorate degree among the 163 students who graduated from Ipoti High School in 1981.

Undoubtedly, we have lost a gem. We have lost a brilliant and illustrious member of our set, a dependable friend, and a brother. His passing is indeed an irreplaceable and irreparable loss.



We extend our heartfelt condolences to his family, church members, and loved ones. May Almighty God grant them comfort, strength, and peace during this difficult time.

The 1981 set of Ipoti High School is deeply proud of the footprints he left behind and his legacy will forever remain in our hearts.

Final Tribute

Bishop Adesina had a natural, instant warmth when I first met him. He was a profound minister of the Word, possessing a remarkable sense of humor. The news of your departure left me speechless, and I hope God continues to comfort the family. Your absence will be deeply felt, but the Lord knows what is best. Shalom.





"Well done, good and faithful servant."

— Matthew 25:21

Bishop Adewumi Adesina

Founder, Essence Christian Church

Founder & Chancellor, Kingdom Diplomats University

Your labour was not in vain. Your legacy lives on.
