



## Ministry Pivot: How to Pivot Your Outreach

**Description :** During this conversation Russell St. Bernard and our guests discuss the importance of outreach. In addition, we discuss ways to engage and encourage congregations and communities in this season.

### **Conversation Guest:**

- Rev. Kendra Smith, Director of Outreach and Congregational Care at Kingdom Fellowship AME Church in MD.
  - IG: <https://www.instagram.com/revkendra/>
  - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/revkendrasmith>
- Pastor Tony Lee, Senior Pastor of Community of Hope AME Church in MD.
  - IG: <https://www.instagram.com/revtonylee/>
  - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/revtonylee>
- Pastor Walter Thomas, Jr., Senior Pastor of The First Baptist Church of Steelton in PA.
  - IG: <https://www.instagram.com/revthomasjr/>
  - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/wstjr>

### **Resources/Tools:**

- If you need to begin a food service outreach at your church or ministry, contact your local food bank about a partnership. Pastor Walter Thomas shared that his Church was able to quickly partner with the local community food bank to become an emergency food distribution center.
- Rev. Kendra Smith shared that having a grant writer or someone who can apply for and write grants in this season will be helpful. Kingdom Fellowship has been blessed to receive several grants in this season to help offset the cost of the outreach.
- One of the resources of this season is delegation to the members in your Church who have the skills needed to move the outreach forward. Pastor Thomas shares that when he lifted up the need people in the congregation heard it and answered it, then he was able to delegate it to the correct person or persons.

### **Takeaways:**

- Who in your congregation or community has a connection with resources at their place of employment that can help you enhance your service to the community? Pastor Tony Lee shares about his Church being a resource to the community based on existing relationships.
- When you're serving the community in this season, you will need to expand your preparation for the service you provide to the community. Rev. Kendra Smith shared

that your team and logistics system needs to be carefully thought through in order to be effective.

- Pastor Walter Thomas shared that he had to be clear early on that God has called each Church to do what they should be doing. Pastor Thomas wasn't told to look at another Church and try to do what they were doing, but instead to do what God had designed his Church to do. He wasn't supposed to look at the size or scale of another Church, but instead look at the what God has designed for them.
- Pastor Tony Lee shared that one of the main problems some Pastors have is their inability to ask for help. As a Pastor, if you don't ask for help you will often lack the advantage of your congregation or those in the community who could and would help if they knew that you needed it. Pastor Lee also shares that we have to lean on God and try. During this season and always, we won't know until we try.
- Rev. Kendra Smith spoke about the need to move forward in outreach by looking at the root cause of these issues to include underemployment and unemployment in these communities and how to help those in need move from transactional to relational interactions.

#### **Final Takeaway:**

- There has never been a wrong way to serve your community. During this season, the best way to serve your congregation and community is to focus on how God has you and your ministry to serve.

#### **Discussion Questions: (these questions should be answered with your team if possible)**

- What are the pain points or needs of the people in your community?
- What other organizations or Churches can you partner with to meet the needs in your community?
- What is the total community impact of the outreach you provide?
- Can you partner with other organizations to develop a system that will help people move to a place where they can be self-sufficient?

#### **Podcast Resources**

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