

## INGREDIENTS FOR A PROGRESSIVE CHURCH

### Our Testimony

### Philippians 3:12-17

There is a great debate in this country between conservative and progressive people. Conservative people have labeled progressive people as liberals. Liberal people have labeled themselves as progressive people. Conservatives by nature do not like to celebrate change. Progressive people believe the right change is better for our community. The Jesus I read about was constantly moving and changing. This is why I do not believe that God is conservative trying to protect the status quo. The Bible reveals that God is constantly moving among His people.

When we have been tested we should have a testimony. When God has changed us we have a testimony. Talking about our deliverance is our testimony; overcoming our temptation is our testimony; navigating troubled waters is our testimony; celebrating His grace and mercy is our testimony. No pain, no gain; no cross, no crown. Our testimony is the road to a progressive church. All the aforementioned are ingredients for a progressive church.

Let me share with you three more ingredients for a progressive church.

- I. The Power of Prayer
  - A. Prayer helps us to forgive and know the will of God.
  - B. Prayer helps us to be faithful and know the way of God.
- II. The Power of Praise
  - A. Praise helps us to forget the pain.
  - B. Praise helps us to be fruitful.
- III. The Power of a Pastor
  - A. Fully mature
  - B. Follower of Christ