



January 2007

- **African American Accomplishment**
- **1st qtr Bulletin Insert:**
African American Accomplishment



- **Family Resource:**
Interview with Dr. Alveda King the Niece of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Impact Your Community
Share your story about Black History Month or how African American Accomplishments have affected your life.



Our vision is to impact and influence the African American family with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, specifically reaching out to the African American pastor, the church and the community with more intentional efforts.

Contact Us

Ask for Alex or Kim...
email: pastors@family.org
phone: (719) 531-3360

Visit Us Online

www.parsonage.org/aa/
Or
www.africanamericanfocus.org

African American Accomplishment

Black History Month has been celebrated in America for eighty-one years. It is a time to honor those who have gone before us and left their legacy on the pages of history. Unfortunately, many did not receive the recognition for their intellectual ability, inventions and patents. But they persevered through the good and bad times.

This type of attitude is needed in the extraordinary times in which we live today. Success seems to have spoiled us when it comes to inventions and creativity. We rely solely on others to provide inspiration to make something new and exciting. I am convinced God has given each one at least a talent and the genius to develop something unique which benefit humanity. Too often, all we hear about are negative and shocking stories which dull the senses of a civil society.

Our forefathers never gave in to the status quo that we were worthless and had very little value. They simply relied upon the wisdom and the direction of the Almighty to compensate for any area of inadequacies. They survived because God was the center of their lives. And were blessed because they walked with Him in their faith, commitment and struggles.

It is my sincere prayer that as we celebrate this historic month called Black History, we will reflect upon those who gave of themselves to better the lives of others. Today we honor them for staying the course with resolve. May we celebrate with pride knowing our ancestors with little education and social position were able to accomplish so much.

Alex Person
Manager, African American Outreach
Focus on the Family

New Year, New Outlook

by Kim Simmons

“My how time flies when you’re having fun,” so the saying goes. Each year it seems as if the pages on the calendar go by at such a fast pace. What a great reminder that we need to slow down and enjoy each moment. Planning for margin in the day to day things will help.

1. Set aside time to spend with friends and family.
2. Ensure that you take timeout to take care of yourself. You might need to set an appointment for an annual physical or take a mental health day.
3. Ask yourself what the cost of each activity you participate in will be. Look at the long term schedule of starting a new class or Bible study.

As you make plans for the next 12 months be sure to create margin in your life and get a new outlook by simplifying your days and remembering to have balance in your work, family and extracurricular activities.

Notable

Break the Barrier

Jackie Robinson was a devout Christian. He was drafted to play for the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1947. At that time sports were segregated and Robinson became a threat, not only at bat and stealing bases. He was injured and ridiculed yet he proved himself and his very presence on the baseball field showed the equal ability of blacks among whites.