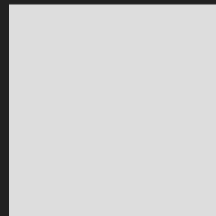


Bishop Rudolph W. McKissick Jr.

Lead Pastor · The Bethel Church Jacksonville

Author · Preacher · Professor · Activist

*"Teaching Truth. Transforming Lives.
Bridging Faith and the World."*



About Bishop McKissick

SHORT BIO — FOR PROGRAMS & INTRODUCTIONS

Bishop Rudolph W. McKissick Jr. is the Lead Pastor of The Bethel Church in Jacksonville, Florida — the oldest Baptist church in the state. A nationally recognized preacher, Billboard-charting recording artist, and published author of eight books, Bishop McKissick has spent four decades at the intersection of faith, justice, and culture. He is a powerful messenger whose ministry transforms lives from the pulpit to the public square.

FULL BIO — FOR PRESS & PUBLICATIONS

Bishop Rudolph W. McKissick Jr. is a preacher, pastor, author, professor, musician, and activist. For over four decades, his ministry has shaped pulpits, communities, and lives at the intersection of faith, justice, and culture.

He serves as Lead Pastor of The Bethel Church in Jacksonville, Florida — the oldest Baptist church in the state of Florida. Founded by freed slaves after the Civil War, Bethel has stood as a place of worship, refuge, and resistance for more than 185 years. Under his leadership, the church has grown into what its congregation calls The Bethel Experience — a multigenerational worship environment known for its vibrancy, energy, and diversity.

His preaching has graced some of the most respected platforms in the African American church. He has served as both morning and evening conference preacher at the prestigious Hampton University Ministers and Musicians Conference — a rare double distinction — and as conference preacher at the John Malcus Ellison Convocation at Virginia Union University.

His musical gifts have earned national recognition. As the creative vision behind the Word and Worship Mass Choir of The Bethel Church, he produced five critically acclaimed recording projects. *The Right Place* debuted at No. 5 on the Billboard charts. *The Recovery* debuted at No. 2.

He is the author of eight books including *When the Word Walks: The Performative Nature of Preaching* and *Trusting & Trembling: Getting to the Nevertheless*. Beyond the pulpit, Bishop McKissick serves on the board of the National Action Network, founded by Rev. Al Sharpton.

His story is also a testimony. Doctors told him he would never sing again after spinal fusion surgery paralyzed a vocal cord. He rebuilt his voice, reshaped his delivery, and returned to the pulpit with greater conviction than before. He is also a cancer survivor.

He holds a Bachelor of Music from Jacksonville University, a Master of Divinity from Virginia Union University, and a Doctor of Ministry from United Theological Seminary. He holds honorary Doctor of Divinity degrees from both Bethune-Cookman University and Virginia Union University.

ANNOUNCEMENT SCRIPT

For Pulpit & Podium Reading

We are honored to welcome one of the most powerful voices in the African American church — Lead Pastor of The Bethel Church in Jacksonville, Florida, a nationally recognized preacher, Billboard-charting recording artist, author of eight books, and a man whose ministry has transformed lives for over four decades.

Please receive with us — Bishop Rudolph W. McKissick Jr.

BOOKING & CONTACT

Get in Touch

GENERAL & BOOKING INQUIRIES

drichardson@thebethelexperience.com

WEBSITE

rmjministries.org

RESPONSE TIME

Within 3–5 business days

BASED IN

Jacksonville, Florida

AVAILABLE FOR

Preaching · Speaking · Teaching
Revivals · Conferences · Lectures · Civic Events

FLYER INFORMATION

Use This Information on All Promotional Materials

FULL NAME

Bishop Rudolph W. McKissick Jr.

TITLE

Lead Pastor
The Bethel Church Jacksonville

LOCATION

Jacksonville, Florida

WEBSITE

rmjministries.org

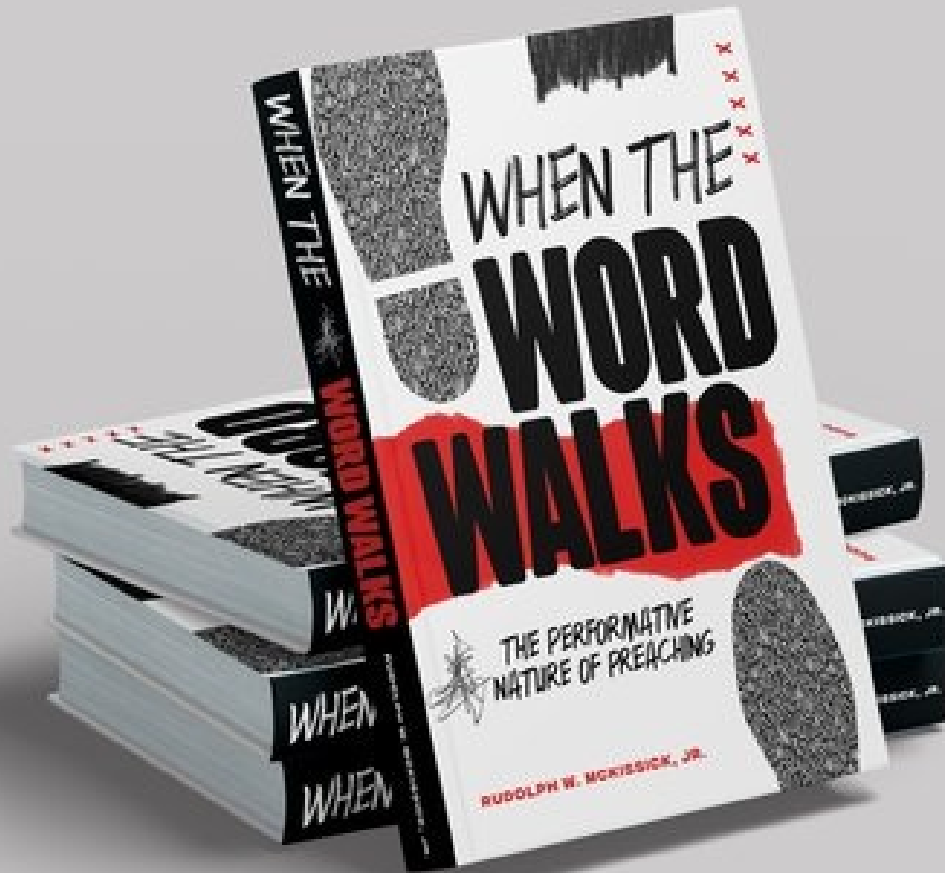
INSTAGRAM

@rudolphmckissick

BOOKING EMAIL

drichardson@
thebethelexperience.com

Books by Bishop McKissick



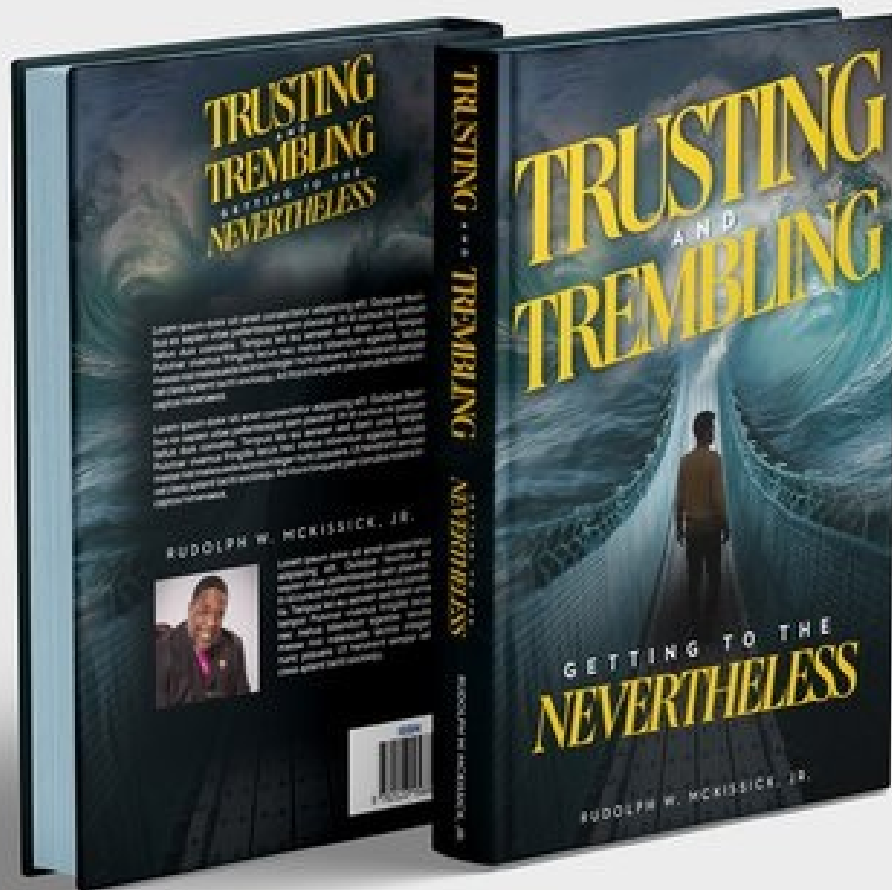
PREACHING RESOURCE

When the Word Walks: The Performative Nature of Preaching

RUDOLPH W. MCKISSICK JR.

The performative art and theology of preaching — craft, structure, voice, and the sacred act of proclamation. Written for preachers, teachers, and anyone who believes the Word is meant to move. A definitive resource for the next generation of proclaimers.

Available at rmjministries.org and [Amazon](https://www.amazon.com)



FAITH RESOURCE

Trusting and Trembling: Getting to the Nevertheless

RUDOLPH W. MCKISSICK JR.

A powerful exploration of faith's tension — standing between fear and trust, uncertainty and obedience. Drawing from biblical insight and real-life experience, it guides readers through the wrestle of surrender, showing how "nevertheless" moments birth transformation.

Available at rmjministries.org and [Amazon](https://www.amazon.com)

Approved Photos for Media Use



FORMAL — PREFERRED FOR PROGRAMS & PRESS



Photo Usage Guidelines: All photos are approved for use in event flyers, church programs, conference materials, and press publications. Please do not crop, filter, or alter the photos. For high-resolution versions, contact drichardson@thebethelexperience.com. Additional photos available upon request.



WEBSITE
rmjministries.org



INSTAGRAM
[@rudolphmckissick](https://www.instagram.com/rudolphmckissick)



YOUTUBE
[@rudolphmckissickjr](https://www.youtube.com/rudolphmckissickjr)



FACEBOOK
[rudolphmckissickjr](https://www.facebook.com/rudolphmckissickjr)

