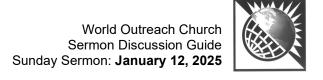
# Dr. Alveda King An Interview with Allen Jackson



Our guest speaker, Dr. Alveda King, is an evangelist, activist, author, and a former Georgia State Representative. She is also the niece of civil rights leader, Martin Luther King, Jr., and daughter of the late slain civil rights activist, Rev. A. D. King. Founder of *Speak For Life*, mobilizing generations of Pro-Life advocates, Dr. King is also a Fox News Channel contributor, Fox Nation host, and NEWSMAX blog contributor.

She brings her unique background and biblical perspective to address issues facing our nation and the Church. She has said, "I too have a dream. I have a dream that America will pray, and God will forgive us our sins."

# Interview talking points:

## **Overcoming**

- Have no bitterness, anger, or hatred
- It starts by having a relationship with God.
- Reading the Bible and praying gives strength. If you're under 30, use a hard copy of the Bible, too!
- Jesus declared: "In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world" (John 16:33).
- Alveda's grandparents taught the Bible at home.

\*\*Division can be very fashionable in our culture today. Where do you see purposeful division taking place? How can we overcome the past and encourage one another to forgive—as individuals and as a nation?

### **Forgiveness**

- When their house was bombed in 1963, Alveda's father, A.D., told his neighbors, "Go home and pray."
- His message to Alveda, when she told him she was harboring resentment toward white people: We are one people, and we have to learn to live together. We are one blood, one human family. White people did not kill your uncle. The Devil did. You've got to forgive!
- Her grandmother, Alberta King, was shot while singing at church. Her grandfather went to the jail and
  asked to see the man who killed his wife. He told him he forgave him and appealed to the county to not
  allow the death penalty.
- Mark 11:25: "<sup>25</sup> And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive them, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins." Alveda said, "I had to learn that."
- Alveda had the congregation repeat the word, "Forgive!" Then asked, "So, now, can you really do it?"
- Pastor Allen said, "It's not fair to listen to Alveda's story and go away and not do likewise." We have to say, "I choose to forgive."

# Challenge of Competition on Social Media: Envy & Selfish Ambition

- Jealousy is not a fruit of the Spirit.
- We all have gifts, and God will bless us, too.
- Form new habits. Determine not to practice jealousy.
- Pastor Allen said: Ask the Holy Spirit to remind you to repent and renounce jealousy. Choose to bless the
  people who have more than you. Tell them how thankful you are that they have the blessings they have.
   Stand in the authority we have been given. You will have a breakthrough!

<sup>\*\*</sup>What are some practical steps you can take to forgive someone who has wronged you?

<sup>\*\*</sup>Share a time when forgiving someone led to healing and restoration in your relationship.

\*\*Can you recall a time when you felt jealous? What triggered it?"

\*\*How do you typically handle feelings of jealousy? What healthy strategies can you use to manage jealousy when it arises?

### Hope

- Alveda's dad, A.D., used to say: "Thank God for what we have left."
- Hold onto a blessed hope. Titus 2:13: "13 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ."
- 1 Corinthians 13:13: "And now these three remain: faith, hope and love."
- But God can still swat us. So, we cry out like Habakkuk: "... in wrath remember mercy" (Habakkuk 3:2).
- Reading the Psalms is helpful, but we also need the blood of Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit.
- \*\*Discuss a situation when you needed to hold on to hope. How did your faith influence your situation?
- \*\*What are some ways you can cultivate hope in your life?

#### What Is Ahead of Us?

- Alveda is grateful that President Trump acknowledges God so much.
- She says we have to have faith in God and not hate.
- Regarding her family members who have different politics: "Political differences cannot make us hate each other."
- The hope for us is in Jesus Christ.
- Our job is to, "Pray for those who in authority." (1 Timothy 2:1-2)
- John 3:16 "<sup>16</sup> For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."
- Alveda said, "It God could save me, He can save anyone."

## **Sacrifice**

Pastor Allen reminds us there is no success without sacrifice. If you succeed without sacrifice, it's because someone else made a sacrifice, so you could have that success. But, if you sacrifice, and you don't see the success, you often make it possible for someone else to have success because of your sacrifice. Today we tend to want change without sacrifice. The problem is the best things in our lives have come at a very steep price. The beaches of Normandy were littered with the bodies of young people, so freedom might be extended for another few generations. We have all benefited from the sacrifices that Alveda and her family have paid. We want our legacy to be a generation of sacrifice so that liberty and freedom in the name of Jesus can be extended for the generations who follow us.

Reflection: Are you willing to make the sacrifices for a better future for those who are coming after you? What does that type of sacrifice look like, in the life of an everyday American?

#### **PRAYER**

Heavenly Father, give me a forgiving heart—a heart like Yours. Teach me to forgive others as You have forgiven me. I release those who have caused me pain and heartache. Forgive me when I hurt others. Create a clean heart within me, a heart that is pleasing in Your sight. If there is anything in me separating me from Your best, help me to recognize the path to freedom. Give me wisdom and courage where I lack it, direction where I'm searching, and help where I need it. Open my eyes to Your work and my ears to Your words. May Your Light shine through me in all that I do. In Jesus' precious name, amen.

<sup>\*\*</sup> If someone is experiencing obstacles, what could you do or say to encourage them to feel hopeful?