



Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2020

## A Tribute to the Life of Minister B. Edwards

As we reflect upon the life of our dearly beloved brother and servant of God, Minister Edwards, there are two sources of reference that come to mind.

Firstly the words of Jesus in his 'Parable of the Ten Talents', recorded in Matthew 25 v 14-30, in which the Master gave to three servants 1, 2 and 5 talents respectively. Secondly the old hymn, "He'll Understand and Say Well Done", written by Lucie Edie Campbell who was born in Mississippi, USA in 1885 to parents who were slaves, but went on to become a distinguished musician. We do not know for certain, but it is assumed that Lucie Campbell's hymn was inspired by the parable of Jesus in Matthew's Gospel.

In Minister Edwards we were blessed with a man who was a devoted husband, a loving father, a gentle and kind brother but most of all a completely dedicated and faithful servant to the work of Christ and the church. His Pastor, Elder Dunkley frequently referred to him as, 'the best Deacon in the world'. Later when he was appointed a Minister he continued to serve faithfully by assisting his Pastor in maintaining the church building. In addition he performed baptisms, he served in the Lord's Supper services and whatever else his hands found to do in the church. In the community Minister Edwards also made sacrifices to serve people of all backgrounds, but especially those with special needs.

In the parable of Jesus, he twice stated that the Master will say to each servant who put their talents to good use, "Well done thou good and faithful servant," (Matt. 25:21 & 23). In Lucie Campbell's hymn she wrote, "If when this life of labour is ended, And the reward of the race you have run, Oh the sweet rest prepared for the faithful, Will be his blest and final 'Well done'."

The labours of Minister Edwards came to an end on Sunday 4th October, and we are persuaded that the Master will say to him, "Well done thou good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

We shall miss our brother greatly, but we carry precious memories of him in all our hearts.

Overseer Keith Linton  
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