

Testimony Monday Samuel

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Submission Date Mar 2, 2026 5:23 PM

Name: Testimony Monday Samuel

Age: 44

Original Home Village, Town or City: Owo, Nigeria

The Church in Blackburn Diocese where you are serving: Emmanuel Church, Preston

In one word, how would you describe what ordination means to you? Service

Please give some insight (a few sentences) about your ordination decision? My decision to pursue ordination comes from a deep sense of calling to serve God and Gods people. Being faithful and obedient to Jesus's command in the great commision.

What inspired you most during your ordination training? What inspired me most was seeing how God works through ordinary people who are willing to be available as seen from the bible and even today.

What are some of the personal challenges and opportunities you face in your ministry in the coming year? As I have come from a different church tradition and culture with my experience having lived and being a priest in Nigeria. I believe some of the personal challenges I may face is understanding the british culture and diverse traditions within the church of England. While this can be a challenge, I see it as an opportunity to bring something new to the body of Christ in England and this diocese in the coming year and years.

Share some thoughts (a few sentences for each point) about how you will support the Bishop in achieving these aims, and also how you will encourage others to do the same?

As a pastor with a passion to shepherd God's people. I hope to support these by being present with the most vulnerable in our communities, listening to their experiences, advocating for their needs and also creating spaces where people facing poverty feels welcomed, valued and able to participate fully. Also creating spaces where children are welcome and thoroughly disciplined in a fun and loving manner as a response to Jesus telling the young people to come to Him.

Please share some insights about what you personally and/or your church may be doing online; particularly anything innovative and successful you have done that other churches may be able to replicate.

I understand that the world is going and tilting digital with the presence of social media. My church's presence on some of these social media platforms is one of the ways we publicise what the church is doing and also spreading the word of God out there to people who may not be able to come into the walls of our church.

One creative thing, I look forward to doing is having my own social media platform where i constantly spread the word of God and put out there what God is doing in our lives and communities.

Tell us about your family/ loved ones:

I got married to Oyeyemi in 2023. Oyeyemi is a mental health nurse who works for the NHS.

What do you do in your free time?

Study, travelling, sight seeing, taking a walk.

Tell us something people don't know about you that might surprise them?

I am a football lover and I support Arsenal FC