

## **Rev. Rodney McFarland, Jr.**

Rev. Rodney McFarland, Jr. is a native of Monroe, Louisiana, born in 1989. In December of 2005, he began echoing the message of Christ as a teenage preacher. His passion for preaching and singing took root at the Greater Free Gift Missionary Baptist Church of Monroe, Louisiana under his father, Bishop Rodney McFarland, Sr.

He is a 2009 graduate of Southern University at Shreveport, Louisiana with an Associate Degree of Applied Science in Funeral Service Administration. While attending Southern University, he served in student leadership as the student government president. After graduation from Southern, he matriculated at LeTourneau University of Longview, Texas earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in Christian Ministry Leadership, with a concentration in Biblical Studies in December of 2013. He is currently pursuing his Master of Divinity degree with a concentration in preaching at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary of Fort Worth, TX.

In 2010, his pastoral journey began at the Hebron Missionary Baptist Church of Longview, Texas. While serving the Hebron Church, he administered the duties of pastoral leadership; collaborated with pastors in associational and state ministries; established scholarships for first-time college students; and brought a sense of community and wholeness to a rural church society. After nearly six (6) years of service in Longview, Texas, Rev. McFarland was called to pastor the Mt. Ollie Baptist Church Inc. of Brooklyn, New York in November of 2015. While in New York, his involvement in the community of Brooklyn emerged as he partnered with neighboring organizations to meet the physical and spiritual demands of the church's membership. Under his leadership at Mount Ollie, Rev. McFarland and the members of the Mt. Ollie Baptist Church completed numerous renovation projects at the church facility; organized a disaster relief team to provide aid during crisis; increased the financial amount given in scholarships to first-time college students; and sponsored annual community events to intentionally draw people to the Lord Jesus Christ.

On Sunday, October 11, 2020, the Lord saw fit to reassign Rev. McFarland to serve in another vineyard. He has recently been called to pastor the First Baptist Church Bracktown in Lexington, KY.

In addition to his shepherding God's people, Rev. McFarland has been blessed to share his preaching and music ministry on various platforms. He is a member of the National Baptist Convention (NBC), USA Inc. under the leadership of Dr. Jerry Young as president. As a member of the NBC, he serves on the "Late Night" preaching auxiliary as a staff secretary chaired by the Rev. Dr. F. Bernard. Mitchell. For the past five (5) years, he has also served as the annual worship leader of the Sunday School Publishing Board Conference of Nashville, TN. As an independent recording artist, Rev. McFarland has released two (2) musical projects: his first single entitled "He's Sweet I Know," and his latest single entitled "Make Sure." His music is available on all digital platforms. While in New York City, Rev. McFarland sang as a featured artist on the musical projects of the renowned Professor James Hall (Worship and Praise) and Pastor John David Wright & the New York Fellowship Choir. He believes singing brings healing to the soul, and that music inspires the creativity of human passion.

Aside from his ministry gifts, Rev. McFarland has a passion for funeral service, and is a certified and licensed funeral director for the state of Louisiana; and he also serves as the 2nd vice president of his family firm, McFarland Funeral Companies of Monroe, LA. Rev. McFarland stands on the blessed hope of preaching God's Word for the glorification of Christ and the edification of His Kingdom.

He is married to the lovely Lady Falon McFarland of Jonesboro, Louisiana, and they are the proud parents of three children, Ava (8), Bella (5), and Rodney III (2).