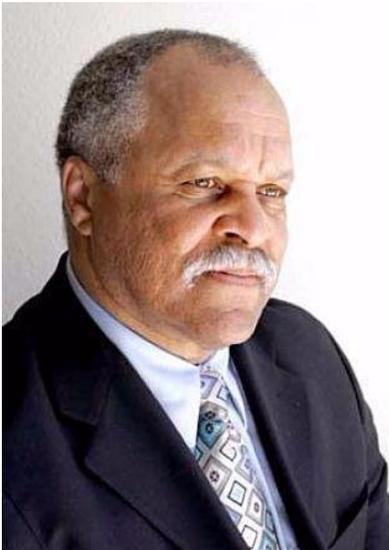


PHEN Network In Action

Bishop Bob Jackson

*Senior Pastor, Acts Full Gospel Church of God In Christ
Oakland, CA*



Bishop Bob Jackson is a prostate cancer survivor. Having hosted three PHEN educational symposiums at his church, he is a committed and active member of the PHEN Network.

Like many African American men, Bishop Bob had never given much thought to his prostate health until he started experiencing problems in 2010.

"I had put things off, and then my PSA levels were at 7.4," the Bishop explained. "A biopsy confirmed it was cancer, but early stage cancer. That opened up a lot of treatment options for me, not just a prostatectomy like a lot of people think."

Working closely with his Urologist, Dr. Lee of Kaiser Medical Center in Los Angeles, Bishop Jackson eventually decided on radiation treatment paired with Lupron. Having a good relationship with his healthcare providers and making sure he acted as his own advocate were very important to Bishop Jackson. Since his own diagnosis, he has actively taken on a role as an advocate in the prostate cancer community to make sure African American men not only understand their risk, but also understand their options.

"Because so many African American men are just not aware of the seriousness and don't understand that the treatments are not always prostatectomy. As African Americans we need to have screenings at a much earlier age than what has been recommended by the government. All of us as pastors should be on board to help in any and every way we can to abate this problem."

Bishop Jackson has spread his message of awareness and education not only with his own congregation in Oakland, California, but across the country. He was invited by the Church of God and Christ to speak to nine thousand African American men about prostate cancer and the importance of screenings after the age of forty.

However, his mission is not only getting the message of screening and prevention to African American men. The Bishop is quick to point out that it is just as important to make sure women are included in prostate cancer awareness events.

“Preachers making it a part of their sermons on Sunday and even if the men are not present, making sure the wives are informed and encourage their husbands to be screened. Making sure the wives are aware of the symptoms and encouraging their husbands to go to the doctor. African American men can be apprehensive, we need African American women on board.”

When asked what advice he would offer to other churches to mobilize them in the fight against prostate cancer, Bishop Jackson was quick to praise PHEN’s efforts.

“I would encourage them to connect with PHEN. Mr. Farrington is a wonderful man with a dedication to see to it that the African American population has the information they need. Mr. Farrington has a real heart and wants to see African American men receive fair treatment and information.

Above all, Bishop Jackson cites his faith in God as a major source of comfort and strength during his battle with prostate cancer.

“By the stripes of the Lord Jesus Christ I am healed, and I would encourage others to pray and believe.”

PHEN is eternally grateful to Bishop Jackson for his outstanding support. We look forward to continuing to work with him in the fight against prostate cancer.

[Meet Bishop Bob Jackson](#)

(click here)