**Life Story of Eddie Handley**

**Early Life**

My name is Eddie Handley. I was born in **Desha County** and am the **14th of 16 children** in the Handley family.

I lived in **Tillar, Arkansas** until 1967, when our family moved to **Pine Bluff, Arkansas**.

**Education and Basketball**

I attended **Watson Chapel High School**, where I was a star basketball player. At every game, I had my own cheering squad—my mom, dad, and siblings.

After high school, I received a scholarship to attend the **University of Arkansas**, where I played basketball for one year.

In 2001, I was honored to be inducted into the **Watson Chapel Basketball Hall of Fame**. I received a plaque and a standing ovation for being recognized as one of the most talented basketball players to ever play for Watson Chapel High School.

**Marriage and Family**

In 1982, I married my best friend and the love of my life, **Marilyn Matthews**.

God blessed our union with two beautiful children: **Eddie** and **Latasha**, both of whom are married today. Together, they have given us **seven grandchildren**—three boys and four girls.

**Faith and Ministry**

I was honored to serve on the **Deacon Board** in 1985 alongside my father, David Handley.

In 1997, I accepted my calling into the ministry. On **July 11, 2005**, I was called to pastor **Bailey Chapel Missionary Baptist Church** in Reid, Arkansas, where I continue to serve faithfully.

**Career**

For more than 30 years, I have worked as a **machine operator at Central Moloney**.

**Legacy**

The greatest accomplishment of my life has been **accepting the call into ministry**. It has shaped my journey and continues to guide how I serve my family, my church, and my community.