Johnnie B. Handley

**Life Story of Johnnie B. Handley**

*Born December 8, 1947*

**Early Life**

I was birthed into the world by my mother, **Verna Mae Handley**, in Tillar, Arkansas. My father was named **David Handley**. I am the eighth child of fifteen sisters and brothers that God blessed to live and be part of the David and Verna Handley clan.

I grew up on a small farm and attended elementary school at Koon Bayou. I continued my studies at Wolfe Project High School until completing the 11th grade, then graduated high school in Tillar, Arkansas, in 1966.

**Education**

In May 1970, I graduated from AM&N College (now the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff) with a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry.

On May 27, 1970, I married **Carnie L. Fletcher**. To this marriage were born two sons: **Maurice O. Handley** and **Christopher B. Handley**.

**Military Service**

After completing college, I joined the **U.S. Air Force** in June 1970. I served two years in Tokyo, Japan, and was honorably discharged in February 1974.

**Career in Education**

I began my career in education as a science teacher in September 1974, teaching for five years. After completing my Master’s degree in Education Administration, I became a school administrator.

I retired in 2009 after 34 years in the education field.

After one year of retirement, I began serving as **Director of the Jefferson Area Technical Career Center**, a position I still hold today.

**Faith and Ministry**

I accepted Jesus Christ into my life at the age of eight and have been an active member of the Baptist church ever since.

In 2008, I was called into ministry. I pastored **Seven Star Missionary Baptist Church** in Tillar for five years.