

April 2022

Faith and Impact of the Church

USM African American Collection

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.usm.maine.edu/we-exist-exhibit3-quotes>

Recommended Citation

USM African American Collection, "Faith and Impact of the Church" (2022). *We Exist Series 3: Quotes*. 5.
<https://digitalcommons.usm.maine.edu/we-exist-exhibit3-quotes/5>

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the We Exist Series 3: The Black Church, Maine's Black Residents and the Wider Community at USM Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in We Exist Series 3: Quotes by an authorized administrator of USM Digital Commons. For more information, please contact jessica.c.hovey@maine.edu.

Faith & Impact of the Church

The Black Church, Maine's Black Residents and the Wider Community

Mrs. Emma Jackson



"Well, I suppose we had a sense of who we were and a sense of self -- self worth anyway. And -- but, then again, I had the Lord. We were -- we were -- I was saved when I came -- well, I wasn't saved when I came here. But I got saved less than a couple of months after I got here. So I knew who God was, and I knew that God was in charge of my life. So the children were always taught that they were not substitute, or they were not inferior. So we never lived like that so we never taught that. So it -- they were able to live here. They enjoyed it. It wasn't really -- they didn't have a struggle to live here."

"Well, I was -- well, we had a very -- I was thankful. I mean, God was good to -- we had a good -- we -- we loved each other. We went on. It was a -- well, people say how did you manage to stay through all the -- the adversities here. I don't guess -- I -- I don't suppose we -- we didn't really see them as -- this was where we were placed. We continued on through ups and downs, through the struggle. We just carried the church on. We carried the church on with two members or three -- well, it was always five or six or seven...We carried on. We kept it going. So he worked. He had to work. And -- and he worked all the time he was pastor and -- too. And he worked and he pastored the church too. So we just kept it going. We would periodically have an influx of -- of people come in and he was a pastor that loved -- loved people and was always available to people and was a -- a counselor and a good, ah, manager of what we had -- what little bit we had."

"Well at first Maine was -- well, I'm not -- I'm a very -- I'm not -- I don't have -- I don't like the big city. So this I like. I've always liked Maine. I -- I didn't, ah -- in the beginning I didn't think I'd always be here. But I always liked Maine. The -- I like the comfort. The living here I liked. I liked the slow pace of living here. Grant you, we couldn't find a decent place, but you accepted that. You realized that God was in charge of life and eventually things would work themselves out. So that wasn't a big struggle. We just kept trying to -- and it's a long story. I won't go into how we bought the house and everything and how that -- but God always worked through people. Then we did that. Because for a long time we worked in an apartment -- I mean, we lived in an apartment. But I didn't find that many -- you didn't find that much -- I didn't have that many problems, per say."

"I think I find that Lewiston/ Auburn, there's a lot of, ah, witchcraft here. There's a lot of, um, dealing in a satanic, ah, ah, works here...Now, you -- it might not be obvious, but it -- you can -- you can discern that. And that's -- I've felt that here..."

Mrs. Emma Jackson (age 62; born 1941 in Atlanta Georgia; lived in Maine for 46 years; has three children)

Full Length Interview: [Home is Where I Make It: Jackson, Emma](#)