
The Modern-Day Royals: Where Are They At??

WRITTEN BY SAMANTHA CARACTOR



Latoya, thank you so much for agreeing to do this interview. This topic is such an important one to the both of us and I really believe your insight offers a unique perspective, so I have some questions here for you...

Why do you personally feel it is important for women to know that they should think of themselves as royalty?



When I think about royalty, I think about queens who walk in confidence and truth. I believe that every woman owes it to herself enough to break all barriers of fear and low self-esteem. Truth be told, we have allowed our environment or painful circumstances to take our voice and time.

It's the season for us to stand firm unapologetically in our purpose. There is a generation coming behind us that needs to see us overcome our obstacles and not compromise our integrity, so when they are faced with challenges they can know it's possible to overcome them. It is time to rise up and be who God has called us to be, for the Bible says that we are fearfully, wonderfully made and wonderful are His works and it's ok to walk with my head held high oozing with grace and confidence of royalty because my Bible says I can.

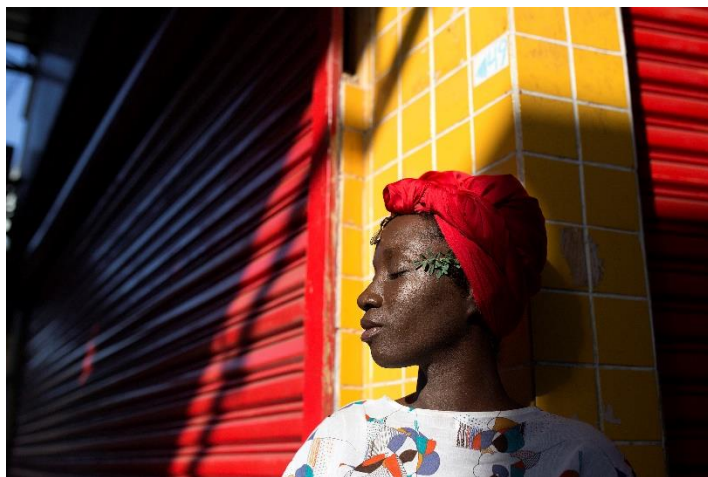
I could not agree with you more! It is so important for us to remain authentic and courageous in our walk with Christ because we truly are royal! Who was the person that inspired you to carry yourself as one of royalty and class?

My mom is definitely my inspiration on how to carry myself with royalty and class. Growing up, I watched my mom endure and overcome a lot of obstacles and I rarely saw her cry or break down. Nonetheless as a child I didn't know the extent of what was happening, but she never gave any clues. We always had food on the table, clothes on our backs and love. She always did it without a hair out of place, and with a shade of red lipstick. I always admired her strength and beauty even as a small child. Now I'm able to take what I saw as a little girl of a strong black woman grounded in her relationship with God and put my own spin on it and become what God intended me to be. I wouldn't be the woman I am today without the lessons that I learn from my mom.

A true strong woman indeed, just from listening to how you speak of her shows that she carried herself with excellence and strength as well and I am so glad you have her as an example. What was one of your major eye-opening events that happened in your life that made you realize you needed to move differently?

My dad passed away at the age of sixty in 2020 due to complications of the coronavirus. It was unexpected and no one including my dad thought it would be his end on this Earth. I had experience death before, but this was different because he was dad. His death changed my way of thinking because I realize that our time on this Earth is short. That one day you are here, and the next you close your eyes never to open them again. I know that I was born with a purpose, and not to say I didn't take it seriously before, but this time I decided to move with a fiery pursuit of it. No more am I making excuses to why I can't move forward or allow fear to grip me, no more am I comparing my life with others. I have work to do for the kingdom of God and I'm determined to succeed at it. So, when it's time for me to close my eyes here on earth

and open them on the side of Heaven and see our creator our heavenly Father, I just want to hear him say well done my faithful servant.



blessing as well.

I am so sorry for your loss, my sincerest condolences to you. But at the same time, his life and his legacy helped inspire that fire under you so I believe that not only what your father did in life was a blessing, but the lesson you learned in his passing is a

If you could go back in time to the biggest mistake you feel you made in the past, what would you tell yourself?

I don't regret none of my mistakes I made in my past, but I did have a lot times where I question myself and what God had for me. As I got older, I believe each direction of my life whether it was out of my own doing or the Lord's, I believe that I was walking in purpose to my destiny and that no one could claim victory but God. If I could go back to my younger self, I would tell her that even though the path doesn't make sense at the moment, don't coward down, don't lose your voice but keep going because it will all make sense after a little while.

Now that is something I know so many young girls coming up behind us need to hear! That is something I wish I knew when I was younger, there would have been a lot more moments in my life where I demonstrated courage.

What lifestyle changes did you make to measure up to the standard of an empowered woman of God?

I need God like I need air to breathe! I realize that this life of a woman of God cannot be done without God himself. I tried it and I'm here to say it doesn't work. It takes more than church Sundays and midday services. I'm talking about the moment I open my eyes I seek his face. Now some can say that is extreme but I can tell them keep on living and you will change your mindset too. I no longer deprive myself of God's presence in my life. I make a conscious effort each morning to digest and consume God for my spiritual growth. He has become everything to me. I realize that when you start to walk this Christian walk seriously that is when your light starts to shine a little brighter allowing women that you come in contact with each day to be empowered of what God is doing in your life and also be empowered of the things of God and it becomes a ripple effect where the love of God continuously grows.

Now of course, I'm familiar with your story but for our readers would you tell us a little more about yourself? What's your story? What miraculous things has God done for you? How did that empower you?

It's funny because my story didn't always made sense to me in the moment, but now as I look back at it, I have an "Oprah Winfrey aha moment" and say "Lord I see you!"

I always knew I had purpose even as a small child. The kicker was trying to find the details of the purpose. I tried my hand in just about everything hoping that something would stick or click, picking up gifts along the way. It wasn't until I was getting ready to produce another gospel play that COVID-19 happened and I had to stop all preparations. The Lord proceeded to lead me with a series of dreams to create Sister Can We Talk TV show. In this show I found myself growing and learning more

about the woman God is allowing me to become by peeling layers of everything that was inside of me. I didn't know half the stuff that He placed in me until this show.

I'm a faith-filled fearless boss making moves and inspiring many in the Kingdom of God. In this season of my life, I get to meet some phenomenal women that have added to my life with their powerful testimonies, gifts and friendships. I get to see and experience things until recently were only in my imagination and I'm humble and grateful. If I had any advice to someone reading this, it would be to just say Yes when it's time to answer His call. What do you have to lose? Is the journey going to be a straight shot to your purpose? It might be or you are going to go through some valleys, but will it be worth it. The answer to that question is yes.