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Latest: Michael Todd Anointed 'Apostle' at Transformation Church Tulsa in Four-Hour Service

A true story of faith under pressure. Read the first half below, then continue online.

KEY SPIRITUAL TAKEAWAY

"And it was not a quiet Sunday. Apostle Sherman Dumas, co-founder of the Kingdom Culture Movement, delivered a prophetic word over Todd before the oil was poured, saying the Tulsa pastor would advise presidents and"

(Transliterated from the original Hindi.)

They had gathered only to pray. When prayer itself becomes the target, faith is proved not by words but by staying.

The Story - Part One

Pastor Michael Todd was anointed as an "apostle" by his own church on Sunday 15 November 2026, in a service at Transformation Church in Tulsa, Oklahoma, that lasted more than four hours. Pastor Tim Ross led the anointing, praying in tongues as he poured oil over Todd's head while the congregation watched their pastor kneel to recieve a title few American megachurch pastors ever claim.

The moment came as Todd turned 40, and the service was built around it. It was called "TC Honors," and it was not a quiet Sunday. Apostle Sherman Dumas, co-founder of the Kingdom Culture Movement, delivered a prophetic word over Todd before the oil was poured, saying the Tulsa pastor would advise presidents and "bring together world leaders." Then the elders laid hands on him, and the room watched a preacher become, in his church's eyes, something more.

Todd himself spoke the words the church wanted to hear. Standing before the congregation, he affirmed that he was "truly called to this office according to the will of our Lord Jesus the Christ and the order of this church." It was a formal consent, spoken out loud, in front of thousands of witnesses and a livestream audience far beyond Tulsa.

The man who handed him the church in the first place was in the room. Bishop Gary McIntosh, Todd's spiritual mentor and the founder of Transformation Church, passed the leadership to Todd and his wife Natalie back in February 2015. Nearly 12 years later, McIntosh told the congregation the elders were not simply bestowing a title on Todd. They were recognising the apostolic work he is already doing in his ministry, he said - naming something they believe has been true for years.

That framing matters, because the word "apostle" carries weight in the New Testament that a job title never could. For supporters, it is the highest recognition a church can give a leader sent out to plant, oversee and carry the gospel beyond one building. For critics, it is a claim no modern pastor can make. Both sides were watching on Sunday, and both sides had something to say before the service was even over.

The Turning Point - What Happens Next

The story reaches a life-changing moment that changes everything -- and what seemed like the end is only the middle. Two reports disagree on the numbers, and one question is left unanswered: will the CCTV footage ever come out? Read the full story to find out what happens next.

PERSONAL REFLECTION & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. When gathering to pray carries a real cost, what keeps a community coming together anyway -- and what would keep you coming?

2. The pastor's sister shielded him with her own body and fainted under the blows. What does costly, self-giving love look like in your own family or church?

3. When justice is delayed and a complaint is withdrawn under threat, how do believers hold on to truth without giving in to fear -- or to hatred?

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