

## REMEMBERING THE EMANUEL 9

by Jacquelyn Dupont-Walker

### Please LEAN IN and LISTEN

On the evening of June 17, 2015, a brutal murder took place at Mother Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, SC. Claiming to want to start a race riot, pure evil showed up at Bible Study and turned Black lives to past tense, and our lives to turmoil after being welcomed into the gathering. He opened gunfire to intentionally kill some and emotionally injure the rest of us. The world paused. We cried and gasped. The Mother Emanuel Church family called upon their faith to forgive and find healing. Future generations must always remember the Emanuel 9 and protect their legacy – they gave their lives.

Today, June 21<sup>st</sup>, 5 years later, we remember the 9 who died that night - **[Call the roll]** Cynthia Marie Graham Hurd, Susie Jackson, Ethel Lee Lance, Depayne Middleton-Doctor, Clementa C. Pinckney, Tywanza Sanders, Daniel Simmons, Sharonda Coleman-Singleton, Myra Thompson. We pledge continued prayer for **[Call the roll]** Felicia Sanders, Polly Sheppard, Jennifer Pinckney and 2 minors who survived. Today we honor and celebrate their lives.

As members of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, we pledge anew **[Ask all to repeat]:**

We will fight injustice

We will reject all forms of hatred based on race

We will support all legislation to end senseless gun violence

We will do everything to end racism now.

With God and together, we cannot fail!

*Suggested music in the background – e.g. **Stand** by Donnie McClurkin*

Lyrics: [Verse] What do you do when you've done all you can and it seems like it's never enough? And what do you say when your friends turn away, and you're all alone? Tell me, what do you give When you've given your all, and it seems like you can't make it through? [Hook 1] Well you just stand when there's nothing left to do you just stand; Watch the Lord see you through. Yes, after you done all you can, you just stand.

[Verse 2] Tell me, how do you handle the guilt of your past? Tell me, how do you deal with the shame? And how can you smile while your heart has been broken and filled with pain? Tell me, what do you give when you've given your all, seems like you can't make it through? [Hook 2] Child, you just stand, when there's nothing left to do. You just stand, watch the Lord see you through. Yes, after you've done all you can, you just stand. [Hook 3] Stand and be sure. Be not entangled in that bondage again. You just stand and endure. God has a purpose. Yes, God has a plan.

[Verse 3] Tell me what do you do when you've done all you can and it seems like you can't make it through. Child, you just stand. You just stand. Stand. (2x's) Don't you dare give up! (You Just) Through the storm (Stand), Stand through the rain (Stand) Through the hurt (Stand), yes through the pain (You just) Don't you bow (Stand), and don't bend (Stand) Don't give up (Stand) , no, don't give in (You just) Hold on, (Stand) just be strong (Stand) God will step in (Stand), and it won't be long (You just) [Last Hook] After you've done all you can (After you've done all you can) After you've done all you can (After you've done all you can) After you gone through the hurt (After you've done all you can) After you've gone through the pain (After you've done all you can) After you've gone through the storm (After you've done all you can) After you've gone through the rain (After you've done all you can) Prayed and cried (2x's) (After you've done all you can) Prayed and you've cry(After you've done all you can) Prayed and cry, After you've done all you can, you just stand!