

Freedom of Preach (f/Bishop Eddie L. Long)

Ludacris

Can the church say Amen? (Amen reverend)
We gon' do another off in right now
We gon' do another one in fifteen minutes
And we gon' do one mo', right after that
Yes, women you looking so very beautiful here today
Some of you with the same thing on from the club last night
The Lord give'th and the Lord take'th away
Oh Lord Jesus I wish you'd take'th away Sister Mary's wig
Oh you disrespecting the House of God with that thing
It don't even look real, aww, it's testimony time
Oh who is that? Young Chris Bridges
Boy I'm glad you finally grew into them ears
Go on and testify[Ludacris]
Lord, please forgive me for the mistakes I've made
And thanks for keeping my momma safe when she wrecked my Escalade
See I could replace a Cadillac but I can't replace my momma
I'm sorry for the hip-hop beefs, we sorry for the drama
But you gotta understand us rappers ain't never had nothing
And one's loss is another's gain so we gotta grab something
Lord, got so many questions I need the answers to
And sorry for the things I put my baby's mama through
I feel that women are really the strongest human beings
But why do you make 'em so emotional, and other minor things
I guess it's your way of saying we gotta love 'em and gotta praise 'em
Cause without 'em we'd be nothing, plus our kids they gotta raise 'em
While we, out and about and seeing what life has to offer
But if you offer a new life then what we need is better fathers
Either I'm smarter cause of my daughter or I'm just too dense
I'm 28 years old, it just now started making sense
And I've been[Chorus One]
Searching so long, I was lost in the clouds
I'm trying to stay strong, and make you proud
It took me some time, but now I see
That he resides, in me yeah yeah[Ludacris]
Lord, forgive me for anytime a fan said I was bein rude
I'm only human, I'm not always in the best of moods
But thanks for giving the gift of rap to write my feelings down
And sorry for cursing sometimes but feelings make me shout 'em out
Forgive the people that wanna blame everything on rap music

If they didn't live it they can't relate or even adapt to it
Forgive those who don't think I'm great and wanna see me go
Forgive Oprah for editing most my comments off her show
Don't get me wrong, I know some people got a image to hold
But those who criticize the youth might just be getting too old
We still traveling through life, finding what's right or wrong
I know some folks may not agree or even like this song
But I'm just speaking MY truth, cause I heard it sets you free
And my conversation's with God, even though he speaks through me
I'm smarter cause of my daughter, and I'm not too dense
I'm 28 years old, it just now started making sense
And I've been[Chorus][Ludacris]
(I've been searchin so long)
(I admit that I've been lost in them clouds)
(I'm just tryna stay strong baby)
(You know I'ma make you proud)
(I know life is full of contradictions)
(I'm tryna become a better man)
(Prayin for redemption, each and every day)(Hallelujah, as the choir sings)[Chorus 2]
Searching so long (so long) lost in the clouds (in the clouds)
Trying to stay strong, and make you proud, make you proud!
Took me some time (took me some time) now I see (oh now I see)
He resides, in me (yeah)(Ladies and gentlemen, we have a special guest in the house tonight
Came with some words of encouragement, Bishop Eddie Long)[Chorus 2][Bishop Eddie Lee Long]
What you just heard is real life
It's real life for you, it's real life for many
It's about where you been, yet at the same time you
Hey, you find yourself, in the midst of conflict and turmoil
Yes I'm talking to you, in the midst of conflict and turmoil
Cause you realize hey, it's, time to change right now
And in the middle of that I wanna say this
The Bible says that when I was a child, I spoke as a child
I understood as a child, I fought as a child
Hey, but when I became a man
I put away those, childish things
Did you not know that your environment has shaped you?
Where you were born, in the projects, in the ghetto's
In the upper downtown, wherever it was
The people around you, the things around you
Cause you to do strange things because, you were seeking to learn
But what you learned, was on the streets, and not in the book
God called you a prophet
When you open up your mouth, everything of God comes out
And it commands attention, it commands change
I'm talking about the power, that's inside of you

And in the midst when you're, starting to understand
That I caught the wrong message, and now it's time
I'm hearing from God, what amazing experience, as you hear from God
He said, "Is there forth any man be in Christ, he is a new creation"
Old things are passed away, somebody needs to hear that and behold
Everything becomes new, and when everything becomes new in you
It's time to stop the killing
I said it's time to stop the stealing
It's time to stop disrespecting our women
It's time for us to come home and raise our children
It's time for us, to really mold our communities
It's time for us, not to get hooked up in religion
But to get hooked up in relationship, with God
And the amazing thing about it
Is wherever you find yourself right now, you can confess
And you can tell God "I'm sorry;
I had the wrong cue, I was doing the wrong thing
I was going after things that I thought were right, but it wasn't right
And now that I'm getting it right, I'm asking you to forgive me
And I may have done the things, that they said I did
But I'm not, who they say I am; I am who you made me to be
And I'm changing in that, and it takes a few moments
But every time I fall down, I'll get right back up
And every time I make a wrong turn, I'll get myself back in line
Because I recognize, I have been called, for such a time as this!"
You can't resist the change
And you're not condemned by your yesterday
If you can grab hold of your now, and move in your destiny
Move, change, and be, now! Searching so long, lost in the clouds
Trying to stay strong, and make you proud, make you proud!
Took me some time (took me some time) now I see
He resides (He resides) in me (in me yeah)

Songwriters

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