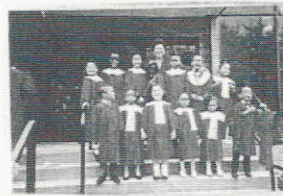


# TYSHAWN THOMAS THROUGH THE YEARS



11 When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways.

1 Corinthians 13:11 (NRSV)

## *Congratulations and Best Wishes Upon Your Graduation From:*

Grandma and Granddaddy Pharr  
Uncle John, Aunt Beth, Ashley  
Kimberly and Kendra  
Aunt Brenda, Uncle Lakel,  
Christopher and Alex  
Aunt Mildred and Uncle Eddie  
Uncle Johnny  
Great Granddaddy Dickens

There is more ahead. Stay the Course,  
Keep the faith. Finish the race.

## AN AFFIRMATION

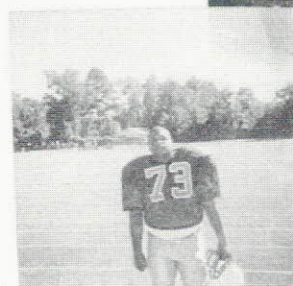
I am, I am, I am;  
I know I am  
The Light of God that never fails.  
All great things begin with me.  
And I am all great things.  
Not one great thing, not a few great  
things, not some great things,  
But all great things  
Begin with me.  
I am somebody.  
Somebody special, somebody caring, somebody  
sharing, somebody daring to learn.

I am somebody.  
Because God didn't make no trash  
And God made me.  
I mean it, I said it, I claim it,  
It is so.

## *Congratulations On Your Graduation*

*from all your friends at:*

Fifteenth Street Presbyterian Church  
Clanton Presbyterian Church  
Statesville Avenue Presbyterian Church  
Covenant Presbyterian Church  
Grier Heights Presbyterian Church  
and  
Julia Caldwell of  
North Mecklenburg High School



This recitation was taught to Tyshawn Thomas during his enrollment in a Summer Reading Enrichment Program at a Lutheran Church in Washington, D. C. in 1991.