

Elberta's story: A humor moment

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In this excerpt from an oral history interview, Elberta Hudson describes a moment of irony in her experience at a shelter after her home in White Stocking, North Carolina was flooded during Hurricane Floyd.

Audio

File:

Duration: 1:17

Transcript:

We had five children at the time, and, me and my husband and five kids, and the house that we were in was a two bedroom house; we were renters, we wasn't buyers, buyers and home owners. I would pray, because when I left Maryland I had a big house, and when I got here I was kind of disappointed. But my husband was promising, "We're going to buy a home. We're going to buy a home." And I was like, "Well, Lord, I can't believe you had me come down here in this little house like this, you know." But the Lord just told me to trust him. So when I was, I woke up - they took us when we left here from the flood to the shelter. It was at Burgaw Middle School. And I woke up that morning, and I just was overwhelmed, and the tears just came. I said, "Well, Lord, I asked you for more space." And I look and I see all of us had our own cots, you know, and I said, "but I didn't expect you to give us more space." But it gave me joy. It was a humor moment. So, you know, it wasn't nothing but Him that was giving me peace in it. But it was just so humorous when you - he didn't say you've got to be persistent or you've got to be precise about what you want. So I did ask for more space, and I had more space at the shelter, but that wasn't my idea when I asked him. [EH is laughing.]

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