

History Snapshots

Matthew Southall Brown, Sr. (1922-2021)

Lesson Topic

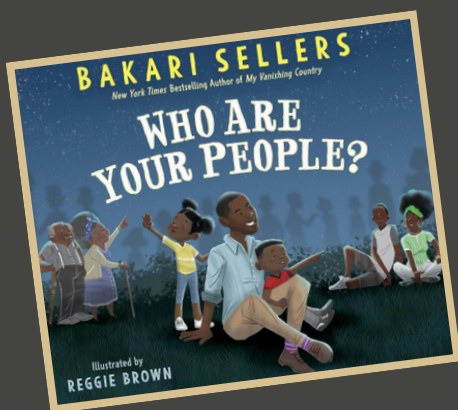
WWII Veteran & Community Leader

Georgia Standards

SS8H10 Evaluate key post-World War II developments in Georgia.

Lesson Picture Book

Who are your People? by Bakari Sellers



Matthew Southall Brown, Sr.: War Hero. Community Pillar.

Pastor Matthew Southall Brown, Sr. made a historical difference both locally and internationally. He served in the United States Army during World War II, and was one of the 2,221 Black soldiers who volunteered to fight in the Battle of the Bulge. He returned to the U.S. in 1945, and soon after married Lottie Mariah Williams, with whom he fathered two daughters and two sons. He was ordained at Historic First African Baptist Church in Savannah, and in 1969 he was called to serve as pastor at St. John Baptist Church, where he led the community in rebuilding the church after a fire destroyed the building in 1993. He served as Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of the Savannah Housing Authority, President of the Savannah Model Cities Neighborhood Council, Inc., and as a life member of the NAACP and Chairman of their Church Work Committee. He was invited by U.S. representative of Georgia's 12th congressional district, John Barrow, to deliver an opening prayer as Guest Chaplain for the U.S. House of Representatives in 2009. He was sponsored by Honor Flights to return to the Netherlands and Belgium, where he was honored for his bravery in the war, and was celebrated as a Black Liberator, meeting the King and Queen of the Netherlands and the King of Belgium; he regarded this trip as the pinnacle event of his life.

Materials

- Youtube Video - Savannah pastor to be honored in the Netherlands
- Picture Book Overview - Who are your People? by Bakari Sellers
- Picture Book Video - Who are your People? by Bakari Sellers
- GHS Primary Source Set - Matthew Southall Brown, Sr.
- ArchivEra - GHS Online Archival Catalog System

GHS Primary Sources



Lesson Introduction

Show the YouTube video: Savannah pastor to be honored in the Netherlands (about Brown being honored as a Black Liberator).

Discussion Questions:

- What did you notice about how he was honored?
- Why do you think his service mattered internationally?

Introduce Vocabulary:

- Veteran – a person who served in the military
- Liberator – someone who helps free others
- Segregation – enforced separation of racial groups

Direct Introduction

Explain Brown's life in chronological order:

- WWII service (Battle of the Bulge Volunteer)
- Return home and family life
- Ordination at First African Baptist Church
- Leadership at St. John Baptist Church
- Civic roles (Housing Authority, NAACP)
- International recognition in Europe

Emphasize how Brown represents Black military contributions after WWII, growth of civil rights leadership in Georgia, and community rebuilding and urban development.

Read the picture book: Who Are Your People? and/or

Listen to the picture book: Who Are Your People?

Guiding Questions:

- How does the book define identity and legacy?
- How does Brown's life reflect the idea of "your people"?

Guided Practice

Create small groups of 4-5 students, depending on class size. Provide each group with:

- GHS Primary Sources Set - Matthew Southall Brown, Sr.
- Who Are Your People? by Bakari Sellers

Have each group analyze the materials and complete a 3–2–1 written response:

- 3 interesting or important facts about Matthew Southall Brown, Sr.
- 2 things that surprised you in the primary source set
- 1 major takeaway from the picture book.

Each group will present their findings to the class, referencing at least one primary source in their explanation.

Independent Practice

Students will complete the ticket out of door journal response:

- DOK Level 2: What is one word you would use to describe Brown's legacy, and why?
- DOK Level 3: How did Matthew Southall Brown, Sr.'s experiences in World War II influence his role as a community leader in Georgia?
- DOK Level 4: Write a short "legacy statement" answering: Who are your people?



GEORGIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRIMARY SOURCE SET-MATTHEW SOUTHALL BROWN, SR.
*TOP LEFT - MATTHEW SOUTHALL BROWN, JR. (SON), CHRISTA STEPHENS (DAUGHTER),
LEONARD BROWN (SON), MAXINE JONES (DAUGHTER)*
BOTTOM LEFT - LOTTIE WILLIAMS BROWN (WIFE) AND MATTHEW SOUTHALL BROWN, SR.

6/11/86

Dear Daddy,

School is now over and summer vacation now begins for some. My summer will be busy. I have summer school, curriculum writing and a training class from the State Dept. of Education.

Enclosed you will find a small gift for Father's Day. I hope you can use it. It is a designer tie.

I hope your day will be a happy one. It is one day that you truly deserve. Fathers are in demand these days. I see the results everyday of children without "Good Fathers."

Therefore my having a "Good Father" is a blessing. Thank you for being a great father and providing for us during Liberty City, Victory Drive,

Cathy Street and Charleston, Most of all, thank you for being my mother. I can here your words, "The greatest gift a father can give to his children is to love their mother."

A preacher, a political figure, a civic leader, a spiritual comforter, a husband, a grandfather, a brother but most of all, you are "my father."

Your son,
Leonard

**ENLISTED RECORD AND REPORT OF SEPARATION
HONORABLE DISCHARGE**

1. LAST NAME - FIRST NAME - MIDDLE INITIAL BROWN MATTHEW S		2. ARMY SERIAL NO. 34 569 414	3. GRADE Pfc	4. ARM OR SERVICE Inf	5. COMPONENT AUS
6. ORGANIZATION Co E 60th Infantry		7. DATE OF SEPARATION 15 Nov 45	8. PLACE OF SEPARATION Sep C CP Gordon Ga		
9. PERMANENT ADDRESS FOR MAILING PURPOSES 925 Victory Dr Savannah Chatham Co		10. DATE OF BIRTH 16 Jul 23	11. PLACE OF BIRTH Savannah Ga		
12. ADDRESS FROM WHICH EMPLOYMENT WILL BE SOUGHT see 9		13. COLOR EYES brown	14. COLOR HAIR black	15. HEIGHT 5-0	16. WEIGHT 141 lbs.
17. NO. DEPENDENTS 1	18. RACE WHITE	19. MARITAL STATUS SINGLE	20. U.S. CITIZEN YES	21. CIVILIAN OCCUPATION AND NO. Truck Driver Light 7-36-260	

MILITARY HISTORY

22. DATE OF INDUCTION 3 Feb 43	23. DATE OF ENLISTMENT 10 Feb 43	24. DATE OF ENTRY INTO ACTIVE SERVICE see 9	25. PLACE OF ENTRY INTO SERVICE Ft Benning Ga
SELECTIVE SERVICE DATA X	26. REGISTRATION X	27. COUNTY AND STATE Chatham Ga	28. HOME ADDRESS AT TIME OF ENTRY INTO SERVICE see 9
30. MILITARY OCCUPATIONAL SPECIALTY AND NO. Rifleman 745		31. MILITARY QUALIFICATION AND DATE (i.e., infantry, aviation and marksmanship badges, etc.) Co Inf Bde 03 Rifle MM	

32. BATTLES AND CAMPAIGNS
Normandy N France G033 WD45 Rhineland G040 WD45 Central Europe G048 WD45

33. DECORATIONS AND CITATIONS
**WW#2 Victory Medal
American Theater Ribbon EAMET Service Medal Good Conduct Medal**

34. WOUNDS RECEIVED IN ACTION
none

35. LATEST IMMUNIZATION DATES				36. SERVICE OUTSIDE CONTINENTAL U. S. AND RETURN		
SMALLPOX	TYPHOID	TETANUS	OTHER (specify)	DATE OF DEPARTURE	DESTINATION	DATE OF ARRIVAL
	22 Nov 44	31 Aug 45	2 Mar 44 ty-5 Jul 45	19 Jan 44	EAMET	30 Jan 44
37. TOTAL LENGTH OF SERVICE				38. HIGHEST GRADE HELD		
CONTINENTAL SERVICE		FOREIGN SERVICE		Private		
YEARS	MONTHS	DAYS	YEARS	MONTHS	DAYS	Class
1	1	8	1	7	28	First Class
39. PRIOR SERVICE				39. HIGHEST GRADE HELD		
none				First Class		

40. REASON AND AUTHORITY FOR SEPARATION
Conv of Gov REI-I (Dem) AR615-345 15 Dec 44

41. SERVICE SCHOOLS ATTENDED
none

42. EDUCATION (Years)


Grammar	High School	College
8	4	0

43. LONGEVITY FOR PAY PURPOSES

YEARS	MONTHS	DAYS	44. MUSTERING OUT PAY	45. SOLID DEPOSIT	46. TRAVEL PAY	47. TOTAL AMOUNT, NAME OF DISBURSING OFFICER
2	9	13	\$ 300 \$ 100	None	\$ 7.20	\$123.56 H W PERSONS 1st Lt

IMPORTANT IF PREMIUM IS NOT PAID WHEN DUE OR WITHIN THIRTY-DAY PERIOD, INSURANCE WILL Lapse. MAKE CHECKS OR MONEY ORDERS PAYABLE TO THE TREASURER OF THE U. S. AND FORWARD TO COLLECTIONS SUBDIVISION, VETERANS ADMINISTRATION, WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

48. KIND OF INSURANCE	49. HOW PAID	50. Effective Date of Allotment Discontinuance	51. Date of Next Premium Due (One month after 50)	52. PREMIUM DUE EACH MONTH	53. INTENTION OF VETERAN TO
Nat. Serv. U.S. Govt. None	Allotment Direct to V. A.	30 Nov 45	31 Dec 45	\$ 6.50	Continue Continue Only Discontinue

54.  RIGHT THUMB PRINT

55. REMARKS (This space for completion of above items or entry of other items specified in W.D. Directives)
**No Time Lost Under AW 107
Lapel button issued
Inactive ERC 3 Feb 43 to 9 Feb 43
ASR (2 Sept 45) 71**

56. APPLICATION FOR ADJUSTED SERVICE
MADE THROUGH STATE GEORGIA DATE 2-6-46

56. SIGNATURE OF PERSON BEING SEPARATED
Ass't

57. PERSONNEL OFFICER (Type name, grade and organization - signature)
PIERCE W BRISCOE 1st Lt

WD AGO FORM 53-55
7 November 1944

This form supersedes all previous editions of WD AGO Forms 53 and 55 for enlisted persons entitled to an Honorable Discharge, which will not be used after receipt of this revision.

GEORGIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRIMARY SOURCE SET-MATTHEW SOUTHALL BROWN, SR.
HONORABLE DISCHARGE PAPER
OF MATTHEW SOUTHALL BROWN, SR.

CERTIFICATES, AFFIDAVITS, AND CUSTOMS DECLARATION

1. I certify and declare that the following items of government property were purchased by me and are my personal property.
(Itemize)

Matthew S. Brown
Name

Pvt. Inf.
Rank and Arm

2. As his commanding officer, I certify that the above named Pvt. has by authority of the Theater Commander been authorized to retain the following items of captured enemy material and has evidenced to me his right to possess the items of British, Canadian, Russian ~~Government material, Allied Government material*~~

(*Strike out words not applicable)
(Itemize)

tilld glasses - Camria - 120
7.6.5 Cal. 32 no. 52 600

In suffel bag.

Henry D. Eaton
Signature
Capt CMC 1-9
Rank and Arm DATE 1945

3. The following customs declaration will be accomplished in all cases, in addition, the customs declaration tags will be accomplished and affixed to the container.

CUSTOMS DECLARATION

I declare that all items listed herein consist of personal or household effects either taken abroad by me or acquired abroad for my personal use, except the following: (Here list items or write "No exceptions" as appropriate)

No Exceptions

Matthew S. Brown
Signature

Pvt. 34569414 1/7/45
Rank & ASN Date

Type of container _____

Tag No. _____

Inspected by
[Signature]

Eloria Sherman Gilbert
2186 5th Avenue
Manhattan, New York 10037
212-283-1606

December 2, 2021

To the family of the late Reverend Matthew Southall Brown, Sr:

All the members of the Gilbert and Sherman family join me in extending heartfelt sympathy on the passing of the Reverend Matthew Southall Brown, Sr. This great man of God who formerly pastored St. John Baptist Church, touched hundreds and hundreds of lives in gospel unity.

He started his ministry, as a teenage deacon, at First African Baptist Church. He was part of the Baptist Youth Fellowship, and the senior high school group whose mission was to bring worship service to the Chatham County prison. He delivered a stirring message, at that time, as a young deacon.

He was inspired to carry the gospel of God and the mission of Jesus Christ. He not only participated in the ministry of First African Baptist Church; but he was also an active participant in the inspiring plays of Dr. Ralph Mark Gilbert.

During his ministry his dear wife and children were also involved in Christian ministry. I imagine, if he could speak today, he would say to his son, who is still a minister, and his wonderful daughters, as well as his home church family, First African Baptist, St. John Baptist and all churches, where he ministered. As Paul admonished in First Corinthians 15:58, "be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."

To the dear family of the Reverend Matthew Southall Brown, Sr., I offer the comfort of Second Timothy 4:7-8. "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing."

Dear Heavenly Father, in the name of Jesus, we thank you for the life and legacy of Matthew Southall Brown, Sr..

In loving sympathy,

Eloria Sherman Gilbert
and the entire family
of Ralph Mark Gilbert

INSTALLATION SERVICES

for

Reverend Matthew Southall Brown



at

SAINT JOHN BAPTIST CHURCH

526 Hartridge Street

Savannah, Georgia

April 2-April 5, 1970

DANIEL P. COUGHLIN
CHAPLAIN

Office of the Chaplain
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-6655

October 29, 2009

Reverend Matthew Southall Brown, Sr.
927 West Victory Drive
Savannah, GA 31405

Dear Rev. Brown:

Following a request from Congressman John Barrow, it is a pleasure to formally invite you to open the United States House of Representatives with prayer as our guest chaplain on **Wednesday, November 18, 2009 at 10:00 am.**

The enclosed sheet has information about the flow of the day and tips to help you with your prayer text.

As we prepare for your time here, our office will need the following from you ahead of your arrival:

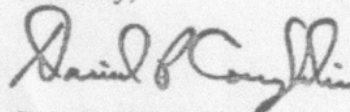
One copy of your prayer for publication in the Congressional Record. We should receive the copy of your prayer by November 4, 2009 (via FAX #202-226-4928 or e-mail to elisa.aglieco@mail.house.gov).

A local telephone number in DC where we can reach you in case of last minute changes.

Identifying information for your vehicle if you plan to drive to the Capitol. We can arrange for you to park on the Capitol grounds if we receive the make/model/color/license number information well ahead of time. You can give this information to us by telephone or send it with the copy of your prayer.

Please feel free to call our office anytime (202-225-2509). We look forward to having you with us as our guest chaplain.

Sincerely,



Rev. Daniel P. Coughlin
Chaplain

DPC:ea

cc: Congressman John Barrow



GEORGIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRIMARY SOURCE SET-MATTHEW SOUTHALL BROWN, SR.
SPEAKER NANCY PELOSI, CONGRESSMAN JOHN BARROW, AND MATTHEW SOUTHALL BROWN, SR.



De baard van koning Willem-Alexander was voor het eerst te zien tijdens een officiële plichtpleging, de herdenking van de Slag om de Schelde. FOTO ANP

'Baard straalt gezag uit'

Uiterlijk koning Willem-Alexander 'stoer en mannelijk'

door Daphne van Rossum algemeen geen trendsetter. Bij een echte 'baardman'. Bij gens de stylist alle kanten



KRINGEN
MARCEL PEERBOOM VOLLER

Metamorfose

Er was eens, in een koninkrijk niet ver hier vandaan, een koning die zijn baard liet staan. Het gaf hem een uitstraling van importantie, al groeide de baard alleen tijdens de vakantie.

Buiten zijn eigen postcodegebied, ver weg van de persmuskiet, waande de koning zich onbespied en bracht niemand de baard in diskrediet.

Nooit was er ook maar één onderdaan die zag hoe de koning zijn baard liet staan. Wat groeide op des konings kin was alleen bedoeld voor de ogen van de koningin. Het was geen baard van kijk, daar heb je koning Raspoetin, maar... Het was een begin.

Hadden de koning en koningin genoeg gepres-skied of gewandeld op een Dolomiet dan was de vakantie voorbij en liet de koning zich weer zien aan de burgerij. Lag het volkslied weer in het verschiet, een bezoek aan het Waadengebied of een bijeenkomst over micro-krediet? Dan zag je de baard niet.

Want was het tijd voor de eerste werkdag, volgde wat je noemt een ware kaalslag. Dan liep de koning naar de waterkraan en ging heel die baard eraan. Eerst de tondeuse op standje Dany Blind - de stoppels vormden een overgangsbewind - maar vervolgens nam hij gewind afscheid van zijn vriend en verscheen hij ten tonele als een gladgeschoren kind.

Maar op een dag, niet zo heel lang geleed, kreeg de koning een idee. Een