

Estus LeRoy Taylor III is a child of the South. He was born in Louisville, Kentucky. He spent his elementary school years in Tennessee and Alabama.

At age 12, Estus moved to Stamford, Connecticut with his mother Gwen Taylor Edwards and his stepfather, the late James H. Edwards. His mother is the former host of the Our Lives television talk show.

Growing up in Connecticut was one of the most impactful elements in shaping the personality that encapsulates Estus Taylor today. He was blessed to attend the King School, a prestigious private school in Stamford on an athletic scholarship. It was while growing up in Stamford that Estus' life's journey intersected with Rev. Carl McCluster's at the Union Baptist Church. There Rev. McCluster served on the pastoral staff as the Director of Christian Education before he got the call to serve as the pastor of Shiloh Baptist Church.

Following the pattern of many northern high school graduates of color, Estus returned to the South to attend one of our country's Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Estus is a graduate of Oakwood University in Huntsville, Alabama.

While on this HBCU campus, Estus learned the value, and the blessings of service to the community and to Almighty God. He yielded his will to Jesus the Christ and decided to somehow make his calling his life's work.

Ministry was never on his mind before even though he is a 4th generation pastor, going all the way back to his paternal great-grandfather Bishop Estus Augustus Taylor, his maternal grandfather Rev. Edward DeBruce, and his own father Rev. Marcus Lucan Taylor.

After college, Estus' community work with local churches led to invitations to preach and sparked his eventual journey into the pastoral ministry.

Twenty years ago, Estus received a call to pastor in California, where he now lives and serves at The Way Church in San Diego, California.

He is married to Melissa Taylor and has 3 sons: King David, Noah and Estus IV.

His wife is the founder of Kingdom Doers™ International, a coaching institute for Christian entrepreneurs. Together they host the Kingdom Doers Podcast.