



The Cross and Crown

a publication of Highway Mission Tabernacle and Resurrection Life Church, Philadelphia, PA

Edition VI | April 2, 2023

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Isabella was bored. She was about six or seven years old, wandering around the back of the church during the sermon. That's where I used to stand, running the slideshow presentation and the sound.

Children love to push buttons, and Isabella was no exception. On a whim, I showed her which button to push on the computer, when it was time to advance to the next slide. At first, I gave her a cue before each change, but soon, she had picked up on the pastor's cadence and was readying herself to push the button without my help! From that Sunday on, I stood by and looked over her shoulder as she ran the slideshow.



Without really trying, I had made a disciple. But that wasn't the last surprise that Isabella had in store. One Sunday, Isabella corralled her little friend, and I watched as she pointed out the buttons to push, gesturing towards the pulpit and telling him to keep an eye on the pastor. A few Sundays later, she came up to me before service and told me that she was going to be singing with the worship team that morning, so her friend was going to handle the slideshow!

I hadn't just made a disciple – I had discovered a disciple-maker!

I was always intrigued by the choice of men who appeared with Jesus on the mount of transfiguration. Out of all the heroes of the Old Testament, why were Moses and Elijah afforded that privilege? It's interesting that Jesus, nearing the end of his ministry in bodily form, chose two people who, as their ministry was coming to a close, invested in someone else, who would carry on after them.

Disciple-making isn't complicated. Joshua walked with Moses. Elisha walked with Elijah. The Twelve walked with Jesus. Isabella walked with me. Who's walking with you?

The church cannot outlive its disciples! If disciple-making stops, we can be assured that the church will stop as well. If we are not building disciples, we are building a museum.

“Go and make disciples of all nations, . . . teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.”

Thanks for Praying!




What a wonderful Family Night we had this past Friday, welcoming our academy and church family for dinner and a time of music, Scripture and prayer!



Please continue to lift up Spring Garden Academy, its teachers and staff, and the families it serves!

We're praying with you!

If you're on our mailing list*, you're on our prayer list! If there's anything specific that we can join you in praying about, please do let us know.

 Highway Mission Tabernacle PO Box 15191 Philadelphia, PA 19130	 Welcome@ResLife.AG
 Church/Academy Office (215) 226-1000	

* **Important:** If you'd rather not be on our mailing list, we understand! Just call or drop us a note, and we'll remove you. (We'll still keep you on our prayer list!)

If you'd rather receive this letter via e-mail, please let us know!

Did you know?

The ducks on the first page aren't real. They were "drawn" by artificial intelligence.

"In everything, set them an example by doing what is good. In your teaching show integrity, seriousness and soundness of speech." (Titus 2:7,8)



Highway Mission Tabernacle ♦ Resurrection Life Church ♦ PO Box 15191 Philadelphia, PA ♦ 19130
Welcome@ResLife.AG ♦ Church: (215) 226-1000
<https://HighwayTabernacle.org> ♦ <https://ResLife.AG> ♦ Sunday services at Noon: <https://ResLife.AG/stream>