



**"No Cross,
No Crown"**

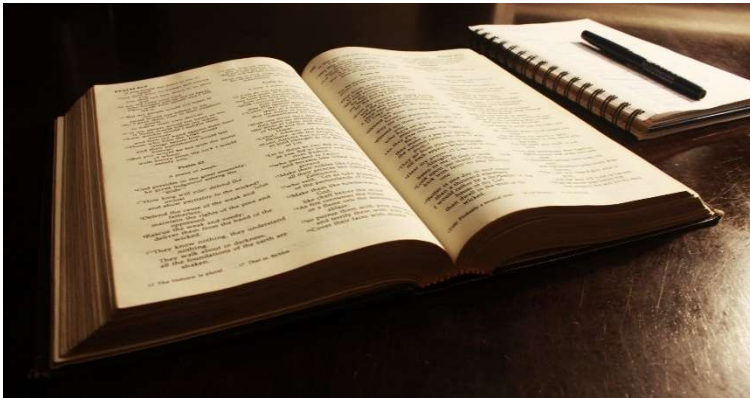
The Cross and Crown

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

Edition XXXV | October 22, 2023 copyright ©2023, Highway Mission Tabernacle

Sunday mornings at Resurrection Life Church begin with "Breakfast with Jesus" – a church-family gathering with people of all ages and every level of Christian experience joining together for a continental breakfast and some time in the Bible. We're currently going through *The Story*, the Bible's history books arranged in chronological order.

I was privileged to have grown up in a home that featured nightly devotionals, where each of us – parents and children – took turns reading the Bible out loud and praying together. My mother used to say that our family wasn't rich, but we were Bible-rich – and we truly were! Sadly, even within the church, many families don't have this biblical underpinning.



I've served on church leadership teams and boards for more than three decades where we've agonized over how to address the issue of spiritual illiteracy. I wish I had the solution (and the money!) to solve this problem, but I believe that we, at RLC, are taking an important first step by exposing our church family to the stories of the

Bible. Yes, there's much more that they will need to learn – about the prophecy, the letters and the poetry in the Bible – and we'll address those in due time, but what better way to introduce people to the character and nature of our great and loving God than to share the stories of his interaction with his creation? I believe that to be the essence of our mission as Christians: to share the wonderful works of God with the next generation.

Let's take a quick health check: How are you doing with your Bible reading? I would encourage you to give God's Word its due in your daily life. Give time to Bible study, yes, but also take the time to listen to the Scriptures. Why not take a break from your favorite podcast or talk show or music playlist – whatever is playing in the background as you sit in the car, around the house or at work, and just listen Word of God for thirty minutes? There are many great audio options available. Feel free to reach out to me for some suggestions, both internet-based and off-line.

We are shaped by what we give our time to. Let's be shaped by the Word of God!

I delight in your decrees; I will not neglect your word. (Psalm 119:16)

Thanks for Praying!

As the year draws to a close, we are laser-focused on the opportunities that the season affords us to connect to our community. We need God's help! Please pray with us for

- our Thanksgiving and Christmas community outreaches,
- the new believers who have expressed interest in baptism and church membership, and
- the financial and human resources that we need to carry out our mission.







The Breakfast with Jesus crowd studies *The Story*.

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 let us know.

Thanks so much to those who have kept in touch! It's so encouraging to hear from you!

 PO Box 15191 Philadelphia, PA 19130
 17 th & Tioga Streets (3501 N 17 th Street) Philadelphia, PA 19140
 Church/Academy Office: (215) 226-1000
 Welcome@ResLife.AG

* **Important:** If you'd rather not be on our mailing list, we won't be offended! 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?

We have launched a new web page, ResLife.AG/Partners, to keep our prayer partners informed about the church's prayer needs. Where applicable, the page also includes resources that we need, to let you know how you and your home church can get involved. Thanks so much for partnering with us!

On him we have set our hope that he will continue to deliver us, as you help us by your prayers. Then many will give thanks on our behalf for the gracious favor granted us in answer to the prayers of many. (II Corinthians I:I0,I1)



Highway Mission Tabernacle ♦ Resurrection Life Church ♦ PO Box 15191 Philadelphia, PA 19130
Welcome@ResLife.AG ♦ Church: (215) 226-1000 ♦ Otis: (215) 266-5976
HighwayTabernacle.org ♦ ResLife.AG ♦ Sunday services at Noon: ResLife.stream
Back issues of the *Cross and Crown*: ResLife.AG/crossandcrown