



THE CROSS *and* CROWN

"No Cross, No Crown"

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

Edition LXI | April 21, 2024

copyright ©2024, Highway Mission Tabernacle

Acts 15 tells the story of a group of Christians trying to work out a crucial piece of doctrine as the church began expanding in ways they hadn't foreseen. After God filled Cornelius (a Roman centurion) and those who met at his house with the Holy Spirit, the apostles needed to determine what was to be required of Gentile believers. The story is a fascinating one, but, in this limited space, I'm only going to consider one aspect of it: These Spirit-filled Christians did not pray for God to give them the solution through some prophetic utterance, but rather, they talked, debated and shared their experiences and insights until they arrived at a solution.

In this final installment of our series on expecting to hear from God, my point is simply that we should expect to hear from God in our conversations with other believers.

Jesus taught that "the mouth speaks what the heart is full of." (Luke 6:45) As Christians, we should find that our conversation overflows with wisdom and insight from the Holy Spirit; – God, who fills our heart. The other side of the coin is that it is crucial for us to "guard [our] heart, for everything [we] do flows from it." (Proverbs 4:23) Many things compete for our time and attention. We must ensure that our heart is centered on and overflowing with the Spirit of God.



One of the best ways for us to stay centered is to spend time with other Christians. When we do, no matter what activity we're involved in – from discussing the deep doctrinal questions of the day to watching TV or playing board games – we should expect to hear from God. Often, over dinner, in the car, or in the middle of texting back and forth with me, my wife shares some insight from her daily reading or something that she heard in a podcast, and all of a sudden, the conversation shifts, and we're hearing the Spirit speak through each other's lips. This should be our expectation whenever we get together with believers.

I have had the privilege of spending time on the phone or in person with many of you who read this letter (although I certainly need to do a better job of staying in touch!), and I can truly say that every conversation has left me refreshed in my spirit – whether we were going over business, discussing prayer needs, or just catching up. Let's keep in touch with our family in Christ – and let's do so with expectation!

People spoke as messengers of God (...) under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

(II Peter 1:21, New Catholic Bible)

Thanks for Praying!





- We have run into some obstacles related to the housing need for which you've been praying with us. Please pray that God will lead us down the right path and clears away the obstacles along it.
- Our mini-musical opens this week! Please pray God's blessing on all who hear the testimony of our ministry and mission through music and the spoken word.
- We have kicked off our missions convention! Please pray that we will be able to increase our support for missionaries and that God will continue calling men, women, boys and girls from Highway into missions.



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 with you in praying for, please let us know. (We will only publish your requests in this newsletter with your permission.)

We really do love hearing from you! Every message and phone call makes a big difference!

	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 write us, 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, or subscribe to it at crossandcrown.online/subscribe !

Did you know?

Nicholas Barbon, the seventeenth-century English economist who was among the first proponents of the free market, was given the baptismal name, "If-Jesus-Christ-had-not-died-for-thee-thou-hadst-been-damned," by his father, Praise-God Barebone.

A good name is more desirable than great riches; to be esteemed is better than silver or gold.
(Proverbs 2:21)



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

Archived Issues: <https://CrossAndCrown.online>