



THE CROSS and CROWN

"No Cross, No Crown"

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

Edition LXXXIII | September 22, 2024 copyright ©2024, Highway Mission Tabernacle

There's an old phrase that regained popularity in the early 2000s: "Pay it forward." It refers to passing along the kindness you've received: Rather than paying it back to the person who helped you out, you pay it forward to someone else in need. Although the phrase goes back as far as 1916, the concept traces all the way back to Jesus and his command to his disciples, "Freely you have received; freely give." (Matthew 10:8) As I've said and written often, what God gives to us he doesn't give intend for us to keep, but to pass along as a blessing to others. Job, in his last response to his friends before he had his audience with God, shows that he was not only rich, but also rich in generosity:

If I have denied the desires of the poor or let the eyes of the widow grow weary, if I have kept my bread to myself, not sharing it with the fatherless (...) if I have seen anyone perishing for lack of clothing, or the needy without garments, and their hearts did not bless me for warming them with the fleece from my sheep, then these also would be sins to be judged, for I would have been unfaithful to God on high. (Job 31:16–20, 28)

Take a moment to take inventory of what God has given you. If he has blessed you financially, are you using your resources to minister to those who are less fortunate? If he has helped you to acquire wisdom, are you passing it along by mentoring those younger (or younger in the faith) than you, or by serving on church boards or committees? If your gift is good health, are you serving those with health challenges, being their hands and feet or eyes? If God has matured the fruit of the Spirit in you, are you an agent of love, joy and peace to your neighbors, your family and the people you interact with behind the bank counter, in the checkout line or on the phone with customer support?



Almost all of our church leadership meetings start off with reflection on whom we're discipling and who's discipling us. As we move through the stages of life, we start to see the first list expand as the second list gets smaller. As children, we're primarily receivers, getting input from the adults in our lives. As we age and become adults ourselves, the elders who have invested in us start to fade away, and it falls on us to invest in the next generation. Let's keep the torch going! Pay it forward!

For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you. (...) For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance. (I Corinthians 11:23, 15:3)

Thanks for Praying!

Your prayers are our lifeblood! Please continue to agree with us for:

- an infusion of faith in the face of many obstacles,
- a season of rest and recovery,
- God's Spirit, wisdom and direction, and
- laborers and leaders in this mission field.



Please pray with us as we work to rebuild our worship arts team.

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.)

Thanks so much to those who have taken the time to keep in touch! It helps to know that you're out there with us!

✉	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?

The Olympic torch is initially lit from a flame in Greece and gets flown to the Olympic Museum in Switzerland before it makes its journey through the country that's hosting the Olympics. A "mother flame" makes the journey, too, in a specially designed lantern, so that the torch can be relit in case it goes out before reaching its final destination.

The fire must be kept burning on the altar continuously; it must not go out. (Leviticus 6:13)

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>

