

# METROGRACE

Developing Urban Churches

September 2024

Member of  CHARIS FELLOWSHIP



Pastor Jim Brown—[jabrown215@yahoo.com](mailto:jabrown215@yahoo.com)

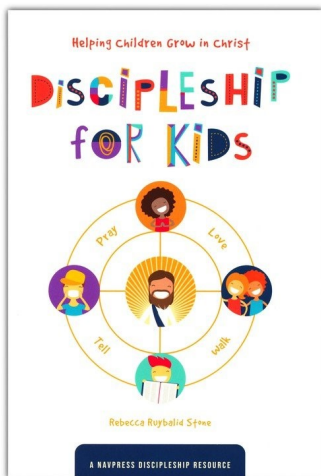


Cameras are everywhere. So now, we view incidents that were rarely seen in the past. Some are heart-warming. Others are horrible; one of those made the rounds on social media last month. A 25-year-old man was riding his bike in South Philly. It was 7pm, still daylight in the city. As he approached a line of parked cars, the driver opened his door, knocking the man to the ground. The driver and two passengers jumped out of the car. The assailants were dressed in dark clothes, wearing masks and armed with semi-automatic weapons. They shot the man more than forty times, leaving him dead in the street. The entire event took about twelve seconds.

I don't know where the man on the bike was heading, but in twelve seconds he entered into his eternity. It reminded me of this verse in James 4:14: **"Yet you do not know what your life will be like tomorrow. You are just a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away."**

**The gospel is an urgent message!** Our family members, friends, co-workers and neighbors are only here for, "a little while." And, so are we.

Last year 410 people were murdered in Philadelphia. About 1,400 people die from drug overdoses here. And each year, about 1.5 million Pennsylvanians enter into eternity. That rivals the size of the entire population of Philadelphia.



**Who will you tell about Jesus?** Their last twelve seconds could come at any time. So could ours.

**"Man is like a mere breath; His days are like a passing shadow."**

**Psalms 144:4**

We're grateful for two young ladies from Crossroads who trusted Jesus for salvation this summer! Sharing the good news results in new life. It's exciting to watch them growing. They are working with some mentors through some basic discipleship tools. Please pray for continued growth and strength as they head back to school this fall.

We're planning for a baptism later this month. Praise the Lord with us!



Thank you for supporting MetroGrace this month!  
Please include this cut-off with your next gift and  
use the back to indicate any changes to your  
contact information.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my gift to support:

General Fund	\$ _____
Jim and Lisa Brown	\$ _____
Pete and Danielle Forshtay	\$ _____
Rick and Kristin Dobrowolski	\$ _____
Other	\$ _____

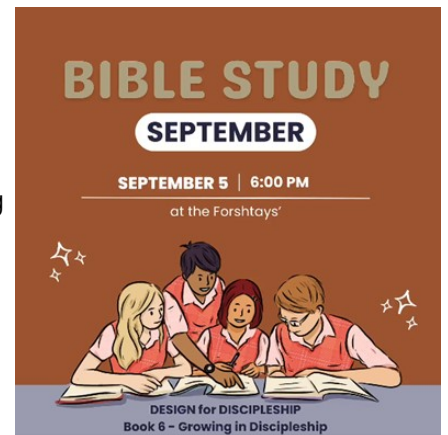
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**[www.metrograce.org](http://www.metrograce.org)**  
**Dr. Jim Brown,**



Pastor Pete and Danielle Forshtay and the congregation at Word of Grace are looking forward to the fall!

The Forshtays will host a mid-week Bible Study at their house.

**Pastor Pete Forshtay—[peteforshtay@gmail.com](mailto:peteforshtay@gmail.com)** Participants are laying a firm foundation for their faith. They are working together through the Design for Discipleship series. Pray for newer believers to grasp the life-changing truth of the Bible. Pray for more mature believers as they build supportive relationships. Pray for consistency as this young church builds for the future.



Urban ministry requires continuing, creative outreach. Word of Grace is planning to host a monthly Coffee House ministry. They intend to welcome musicians, singers, writers and artists. They hope to provide an environment where neighbors

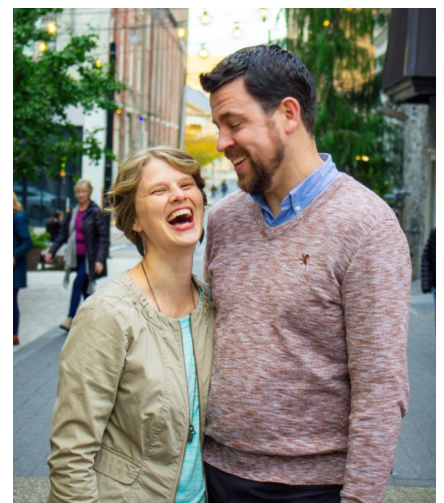
can gather, express themselves and build relationships. Please pray for plenty of support staff to serve. Pray for great participation from the community. And, pray for congregants as they build gospel-centered relationships with those who attend.

We're grateful for all who have contributed to the "Roof Fund" so far. You can still donate through MetroGrace. Or, you can give directly to Word of Grace. Checks can be mailed to Word of Grace Church, 4706 Comly Street, Philadelphia, PA 19136. Online donations can be made at [www.wordofgracephilly.com](http://www.wordofgracephilly.com)



**Pastor Rick Dobrowolski—[rickdob7@icloud.com](mailto:rickdob7@icloud.com)**

Please continue to pray for Rick and Kristin Dobrowolski and their family as they serve the Lord in Allentown, Pennsylvania.



Citylight is blessed with a large youth group for students going into 7 to 12 grade which meet regularly on Wednesday evenings to study God's Word and fellowship with each other. Please pray for teens as they grow in their walk with the Lord.

Please pray for their Life Group Ministry, too. These monthly groups meet around a meal for fellowship and prayer. Pray for strengthening relationships that

will move the church forward. Pray for Pastor Steve as he leads this ministry.

**Thanks for all you do to advance the gospel in the city! We're grateful for your prayerful support!**

