

METROGRACE

Developing Urban Churches

July 2026

Member of  CHARIS FELLOWSHIP

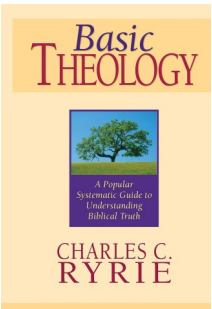
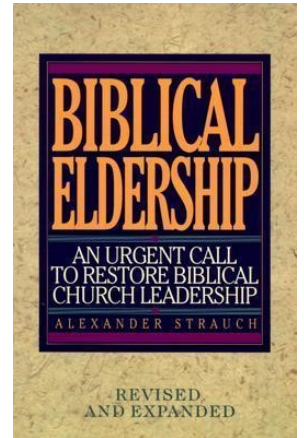


Pastor Jim Brown—jabrown215@yahoo.com

Leadership development is a constant need in urban churches. Congregations need qualified men who are committed to growing in their service to the Lord.

At Crossroads, those called

to serve as elders begin laying a foundation with a tool called, Biblical Eldership. This program helps leaders gain a clear understanding of God's plan for directing the local church.



In addition, Crossroads uses Basic Theology by Charles Ryrie to expand upon the Crossroads Statement of Faith, clarifying foundational biblical truths that are taught to the church.

These initial studies are followed by lifelong learning where Crossroads' elders grow in their ability to teach the Word of God. Throughout the year, three elders rotate leadership of Crossroads Bible Training. In the past six years, they have led weekly studies through most of the New Testament.

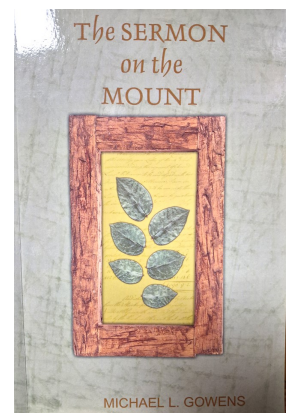


This summer those elders will preach through the Sermon on the Mount. As they study from Matthew 5-7 they will use a book from Michael Gowens to guide their preparation. Each leader will have the opportunity to preach twice throughout the summer.

Please pray for Mike, James and Jason as they serve the Lord at Crossroads.

Sometimes leadership traits become evident when people are very young. The Lord might be preparing those who are consistent, teachable, growing and influential. Praying for young people is very important; they might be the next congregational leaders.

Some of those young people will head to Camp Conquest this month. Some will be serving at camp. Thank you for making it possible for students to attend! Your role in their lives has an impact now and in the future!



*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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Commitment to Christ & Citylight

Living in an urban American setting for the last 15 years has taught me that commitment is normally an obstacle for many professing



Jesus followers. Perhaps this is true elsewhere also?



Commitment in following Christ in all aspects of life, commitment in marriage, and commitment to a local church family are all areas that have been attacked by our world and discarded by far too many Christians. Decisions by people in any of these areas are always sources of great joy to me and others who have served them by pointing to Jesus, showing how Jesus encourages them to commit.



God has given such encouragement here at Citylight lately.

Three baptisms, five commitments to church membership, and two couples committing to marriage have brought about great joy in our church!

It's been refreshing after coming through a season of abrupt goodbyes.

I pray that this season of commitment persists, because watching God work in these ways is tremendously soul-lifting. Please join me in that prayer that fruit flourishes.



WORD OF GRACE CHURCH

Word of Grace continues to grow a church family in Wissinoming. Children, young adults, couples, families and seniors all play a role.



Pastor Pete Forshtay—peteforshtay@gmail.com



Reading Scripture, leading congregational singing, directing worship through giving, sharing in prayer, testifying to God's blessing and preaching God's word are building a family of faith in urban Philadelphia!

Wayne has lived in Wissinoming all of his 73 years. He came to trust the Lord for salvation as a young adult. When he learned that Word

of Grace Church was serving the Lord in his neighborhood he wanted to join the team. He would serve in any way that he could. Often he would clean the building, sweeping the sidewalk and street. He loved bringing items to help decorate.

Last year he had a bad fall. He broke his collar bone and damaged his spine. The doctors thought he would be paralyzed, doubting that he would be able to walk.

Though public speaking is not Wayne's strength, last month he gave testimony to the miraculous healing power of the Lord. On Father's Day he walked the few blocks from his house to the church building, stood in front of the congregation and gave God praise for His healing power! Thank you for praying for Pete and Danielle Forshtay, Wayne and the church family at Word of Grace!

