

CITY
LIFE
CHURCH


VISION
BOOK
2023

YES, GOD!

UNCOMMON SURRENDER// ETERNAL IMPACT





 CITY
LIFE
CHURCH

CityLife
PHILLY

VISION
BOOK
2023 

MY FATHER! IF IT IS POSSIBLE, LET
THIS CUP OF SUFFERING BE
TAKEN AWAY FROM ME.

YET I
WANT

YOUR
WILL

TO BE DONE, NOT MINE.



A LETTER FROM THE HEART
OF OUR PASTORS

We believe 2023 is going to be a year to remember for City Life, a year marked by uncommon surrender to God and a greater impact in our city. There's one short, simple word God has given us to anchor our faith this year. It's also a word we believe can be given back to Him as an act of worship. Our word for 2023 is "Yes!"

"Yes" only requires one breath to speak, but takes the deepest devotion to choose. It takes three quick strokes to type, yet draws us into graduate-level surrender with God. A "no" stops the story in its tracks. One "Yes" allows our Master Storyteller to flip to the next chapter.

It may be the most powerful prayer that can be spoken.

—

Yes!
GOD!

—

To say "Yes" to God is to choose God: not just what you hope to get from Him, but only God Himself. When we have an open, surrendered heart, we are free to let God choose and direct His will, confident that if we had His knowledge and perspective, His decision would also be our desire.

More than anything, we want you to experience more of God this year. We want you to thrive in your relationships. We want you to experience purpose in your work. We want you to overcome anxiety and fear and experience God's peace in a way you may not have even dreamed was possible. We want you to feel hopeful about your future. Our deep longing is for our church to be obsessed with worship, prayer, and the pursuit of God's Presence. We desire to reach THE ONE, make more disciples, and multiply City Life's presence in the underdog neighborhoods of Philadelphia. We believe God wants to reverse the aging process in our church, and actually give us more youthful passion and faith every year we get older.

But all of this starts with one prayer:

— *YES!*
GOD! —

Thanks for taking some time to pray through our 2023 vision book. In this book, you'll be reminded of our mission. You'll also discover how you can pray, partner and dream with us this year. We hope the vision inspires your faith and unites our church in a new way!

What can you give to a God who created everything? Who doesn't need anything? He wants your heart. He wants your life. He wants your trust. He wants your "Yes!"

Thanks for joining us this year to build God's Kingdom. We love being your pastors!

// TO SAY *YES* TO GOD IS TO CHOOSE GOD //



YES, TO MISSION

WE EXIST TO LEAD THE ONE FAR FROM
GOD TO PURSUE FULL LIFE IN CHRIST

"Through my baptism, I started a new life where God is helping and guiding me. I have seen changes spiritually, physically, and even academically. I know for sure that everything will be okay because my hope and trust are in Jesus. I pray that God would do the same thing for someone else!"

EMMANUELLA, AGE 13



LOVE

GOD



OUR SUNDAY WORSHIP EXPERIENCE IS A PASSIONATE, DOWN TO EARTH ENCOUNTER DESIGNED TO CATAPULT PEOPLE INTO A WEEK-LONG PURSUIT OF LOVING GOD!

HAPPENING IN 2023: An additional location for weekend worship services!

LOVE

PEOPLE

OUR LIFE GROUPS ARE SMALLER, RELATIONAL ENVIRONMENTS WHERE WE CAN LIVE OUT OUR CORE BELIEF THAT CHURCH IS MEANT TO BECOME A SPIRITUAL FAMILY.

HAPPENING IN 2023: 3 new Life Group semesters. (Feb. 5, June 4, Sept. 17)

PROVE IT

OUR DREAM TEAM OF VOLUNTEERS LIVE TO SERVE, AND MAKE BROKEN PLACES BEAUTIFUL AGAIN.

HAPPENING IN 2023: The annual City Life Onesies (Feb. 24) and Team Night (Sept. 6)

YES, TO **SURRENDER**

OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN, MAY
YOUR NAME BE KEPT HOLY. MAY
YOUR KINGDOM COME SOON.

**MAY
YOUR
Will
BE DONE**

ON EARTH, AS IT IS IN HEAVEN

✦ MATTHEW 6:9-10
(JESUS)

// The greatest roadblock in prayer comes from the tightness of our grip around our own desires, ideas, and plans. The ultimate goal of prayer, which unleashes the full power of prayer, is to loosen that grip by giving God our "Yes." //

TEXT PRAY21 TO
(215) 717-7737
FOR DAILY
TEXT REMINDERS

21 DAYS OF PRAYER

WE DEDICATE 21 DAYS, TWICE A YEAR
TO BE INTENTIONAL ABOUT GROWING
IN OUR PRAYER LIFE. TOGETHER, AS A
CHURCH, WE SEEK GOD DAILY
THROUGH PRAYER DEVOTIONALS,
WORSHIP AND PRAYER NIGHTS, AND
OTHER CREATIVE AVENUES.

2023 SCHEDULE

- * **21 DAYS OF PRAYER** JANUARY 9 - 29
- * **ALL NIGHT PRAYER** JANUARY 20
- * **21 DAYS OF PRAYER** AUGUST 14 - SEPT. 3

SCAN TO VIEW
FULL DAILY DEVOS
AND MORE 21
DAYS OF PRAYER
RESOURCES



day 1 _____

YES GOD, YOU ARE

WORTHY

2 SAMUEL 22:4

day 2 _____

YES GOD, YOU ARE

LOVING

1 JOHN 3:1

day 3 _____

YES GOD, YOU ARE

KIND

EPHESIANS 2:7-8

day 4 _____

YES GOD, YOU ARE

GENEROUS

JOHN 3:16

day 5 _____

YES GOD, YOU ARE

FAITHFUL

LAMENTATIONS 3:22-23

day 6 _____

YES GOD, YOU ARE

MERCIFUL

EPHESIANS 2:4-5

day 7 _____

YES GOD, YOU ARE

COMPASSIONATE

PSALM 103:8



SCAN TO VIEW FULL DAILY
DEVOS AND MORE 21 DAYS
OF PRAYER RESOURCES

day 8 _____

YES GOD, YOU ARE

MIGHTY

PSALM 24:8

day 9 _____

YES GOD, YOU ARE

FORGIVING

1 JOHN 1:9

day 10 _____

YES GOD, YOU ARE

GOOD

PSALM 136:1

day 11 _____

YES GOD, YOU ARE

RIGHTEOUS

PSALM 145:17

day 12 _____

YES GOD, YOU ARE

CARING

MATTHEW 6:26

day 13 _____

YES GOD, YOU ARE

SOVEREIGN

PSALM 103:19

day 14 _____

YES GOD, YOU ARE MY

SHEPHERD

PSALM 23:1-3

day 15 _____

YES GOD, YOU ARE
EVER-PRESENT

PSALM 46:1

day 16 _____

YES GOD, YOU ARE MY

REFUGE

PSALM 91:1-2

day 17 _____

YES GOD, YOU ARE

GRACIOUS

PSALM 116:5

day 18 _____

YES GOD, YOU ARE MY

HEALER

PSALM 103:2-3

day 19 _____

YES GOD, YOU ARE

POWERFUL

1 CHRONICLES 29:11-12

day 20 _____

YES GOD, YOU ARE THE ONE

WHO SAVES

ZEPHANIAH 3:17

day 21 _____

YES GOD, YOU ARE THE
ONE WHO MAKES

ALL THINGS NEW

REVELATION 21:5



SCAN TO VIEW FULL
DAILY DEVOS AND
MORE 21 DAYS OF
PRAYER RESOURCES



amen = so be it



The final action of prayer is surrender. The final posture of prayer is an open heart.
The final words of prayer are... **YES, GOD!**

U YES, TO THE _____ **NREACHED**

2023 KINGDOM BUILDERS

We want to choose to prioritize God's work on earth in everything we do. That's why at City Life, we have chosen this name for our annual missions campaign. Kingdom Builders are generous believers from City Life who give above and beyond in order to expand God's Kingdom on earth.

This name represents what we want to be as a church, and as individuals and families. We are actively building God's Kingdom, with a focus on reaching the unreached, serving the poor, caring for the vulnerable, and adopting an underdog generation in Philly and beyond.

INTERNATIONAL KINGDOM BUILDERS

DAUGHTER PROJECT

We can be part of the solution for the horrific global issue of human trafficking through our ongoing partnership with the Daughter Project in Thailand.

URGENT CRISIS RESPONSE

When there is a global crisis we want to be able to get resources like food, water, and basic necessities into the hands of frontline missionaries as quickly as possible.

FESTIVALS IN AFRICA

We will be partnering with Mission SOS and Awakening Ministries International to host outdoor evangelistic meetings to reach people for Jesus with signs, wonders, and miracles.

CAFE AWAKE

We will empower a team of frontline missionaries in China to gain creative access to the unreached by establishing a new community coffee shop.



NATIONAL + LOCAL KINGDOM BUILDERS

SOUTHWEST LOCATION LAUNCH

Help us resource the planting of a brand new City Life location to reach THE ONE in Southwest Philadelphia.

ALASKA UNREACHED

We will continue to partner with Paul and Crystal Burkhart and Alaska Chi Alpha to reach native Alaskans in the more than two hundred indigenous villages across the state.

POP-UP CHURCH

Our goal is to fund pop-up church experiences and community outreaches in our neighborhood and throughout the city as God opens doors.

HOPE CENTER

We have a vision to establish our very first Hope Center, a physical space in Southwest Philadelphia from which to meet the tangible needs of people in the community.

ONE CITY ONE LOVE

Our desire is to invest in a growing relational network of pastors and churches throughout our city who are dedicated to collaborating for united prayer, outreach, and racial reconciliation.



AND YOU WILL BE MY WITNESSES
TELLING PEOPLE ABOUT ME

EVERYWHERE

...TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH.

- ACTS 1:8

EVERY MONTH, OUT OF OUR CHURCH'S REGULAR GIVING, WE ARE IMPACTING THE WORLD! THIS YEAR WE WILL...

- ✦ Provide monthly support to more than 43 missionaries and organizations, with a focus on bringing the gospel to unreached people groups.
- ✦ Provide opportunities for City Lifers to partner and participate in global missions through 3 strategic short-term trips throughout the year.
- ✦ Provide counseling for people struggling with mental health.
- ✦ Invest in our growing number of partnerships with local schools.
- ✦ Provide coaching and care for almost 150 pastors through the Next Level Relational Network.



YES, TO WHAT'S

NEXT

- ✦ Start a Hope Center in Southwest Philadelphia.
- ✦ Plant a new City Life location in Southwest Philadelphia.
- ✦ Establish a non-profit community development corporation.
- ✦ Conduct pop-up outreaches in underdog neighborhoods through our Serve the City truck.
- ✦ Impact thousands of children through the Egg Hunt and Trunk or Treat.



YES, TO WHAT'S NEXT

- ✦ Continue to develop as a multi-ethnic church through our Race and Justice Action Plan.
- ✦ Expand the reach of City Life Sports.
- ✦ Create and record new music through City Life Worship.
- ✦ Give more than \$350,000 away to reach the unreached through missions.
- ✦ Expand our weekly presence at South Philly High School and reproduce the partnership at Tilden Middle School.
- ✦ Celebrate our 500th baptism as a church!



BIG

*D*REAMS

BIG

*G*OD

2023

* WHAT'S YOUR *

YES?

YES TO
SERVE

We need you! There's a place at City Life for your unique gifts and talents.

- Become a Dream Team volunteer
- Be part of the Location Launch Team
- Join the Hope Center Team

YES TO
PRAY

The dream is bigger than we are!

- Join a growing prayer force at City Life to seek God for greater things

YES TO
GIVE

Put your resources to work for eternity.

- Take the 90 Day Tithe Challenge
- Make a commitment to Kingdom Builders



**SCAN TO TAKE THE NEXT
STEP AND SAY "YES!"**



WHAT CAN ONE YES DO?



"NO" STOPS THE STORY
IN IT'S TRACKS.

YES, GOD!

INTRODUCES THE NEXT CHAPTER AND
ACCELERATES YOUR STORY.





CityLife
PHILLY

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