



Ministry of Biblical Studies

January Theme: "FOUNDATION - Understanding God's Blueprint"



Wednesdays @ 11am | In-Person & Online



Metropolitan Community Church
4610 S Prairie Avenue
Chicago, IL 60653
Rev. Leon Perry III, Senior Pastor

Welcome to the Metropolitan Community Church Ministry of Biblical Study Classes

January 7, 2026

"Introduction to the Divine Blueprint"

Focal Scripture:

"For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope." Jeremiah 29:11 (NRSV)

Lesson Objective:

To recognize that God has a purposeful, hope-filled plan for their lives and learn how trusting His divine blueprint provides direction and stability, even in uncertain seasons.

Lesson Overview:

- God speaks in Jeremiah 29:11 to Israel while they are in exile—still waiting, struggling, and displaced. This verse introduces the idea of a divine blueprint: God's intentional plan that unfolds over time and leads toward hope, not harm. Trusting God's plan often requires faith before understanding.

1. Lesson Intro: Understanding the Blueprint

- A blueprint is a plan that guides purpose and construction
- God, as the Designer, knows the full plan for our lives
- Faith begins by trusting God's design, even when outcomes are unclear

2. Divine Blueprint for Destiny

- Read Jeremiah 29:11
- Context:
 - Israel is in exile in Babylon
 - The people face uncertainty and long waiting
 - God speaks hope before circumstances change

Key Point:

- God's plan is still active when life feels unstable.

3. Exploring the Divine Blueprint

- **"For I know the plans I have for you..."**
 - God's plans are intentional and personal
 - His knowledge exceeds our limited perspective
- **"...plans for your welfare and not for harm..."**
 - God's goodness includes growth, peace, and wholeness
 - Delay or discipline does not negate God's care
- **"...to give you a future with hope."**
 - God's plan is forward-looking
 - Hope is rooted in God's promises, not circumstances

Discussion Prompt:

- Which part of this verse stands out to you most, and why?

4. Applying the Blueprint to Our Lives

- God's plan may differ from our expectations
- Trust requires patience, obedience, and faith
- Waiting does not mean God is absent

Discussion Questions:

1. Where is God asking you to trust His plan right now?
2. What makes trusting God's timing difficult?
3. How can prayer help align you with God's blueprint?

Prayer Focus:

Forgiving Father, Merciful Master, and Sovereign Savior, we pray for trust, patience, and faith to follow your divine blueprint—believing that your plans are good, your timing is perfect, and your promises are sure.

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January 14, 2026

"The Master Builder's Vision"

Focal Scripture:

"I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you." Psalm 32:8 NRSV

Lesson Objective:

To understand that God, the Master Builder, actively guides, teaches, and counsels His people, and will learn how trusting His vision brings clarity, direction, and confidence in daily life.

Lesson Overview:

- Psalm 32:8 reveals God not only as a planner, but as a personal guide who stays engaged in the lives of His people. Unlike distant instructions, God promises ongoing teaching, direction, and watchful care. This lesson highlights the importance of trusting God's vision and remaining responsive to His guidance.

1. Lesson Intro: The Master Builder's Vision

- A master builder does not abandon a project once it begins
- God's vision includes both the destination and the process
- Divine guidance is relational, not transactional

2. God's Active Guidance

- Read Psalm 32:8
- Key Truths:
 - God ***instructs*** — God gives wisdom and understanding
 - God ***teaches*** — God walks with us as we learn
 - God ***counsels*** — God guidance is personal and attentive

Key Point:

- God's guidance is continuous and intentional, not occasional or distant.

3. Exploring the Master Builder's Promise

- **"I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go"**
 - God provides direction for both choices and character
 - Obedience grows as we remain teachable
- **"I will counsel you with my eye upon you"**
 - God's guidance is rooted in care and watchfulness
 - We are never outside of His attention or concern

Discussion Prompt:

- What does it mean to you that God watches over you while guiding you?

4. Applying the Vision to Our Lives

- God's guidance requires humility and attentiveness
- Trust grows as we listen and respond in obedience
- Following God's vision brings peace, even when the path is unclear

Discussion Questions:

1. Where do you need God's guidance most right now?
2. What makes it difficult to follow God's direction consistently?
3. How can prayer and Scripture help you stay aligned with God's vision?

Prayer Focus:

Forgiving Father, Merciful Master, and Sovereign Savior, we thank You for being the Master Builder who guides our lives with wisdom and care. Teach us the way we should go, help us trust Your vision, and keep us attentive to Your counsel as we walk in obedience and faith.

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January 21, 2026

"Building on Solid Ground"

Focal Scripture:

"Everyone then who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock." Matthew 7:24 (NRSV)

Lesson Objective:

To understand the importance of building their lives on obedience to God's Word and recognize how spiritual foundations determine stability during life's storms.

Lesson Overview:

- Jesus closes the Sermon on the Mount with a vivid illustration of two builders. Both face storms, but only one stands firm. This lesson emphasizes that hearing the Word is not enough—obedience is the foundation that sustains us.

1. Lesson Intro: The Two Builders (vv. 24–25)

- Same resources, different foundations
- Obedience as wisdom, not convenience

2. The Storms of Life (vv. 25, 27)

- Storms come to everyone
- Faith does not prevent storms, but it prepares us for them

3. The Consequences of Foundations (vv. 26–27)

- Sand represents shallow faith and selective obedience
- Rock represents Christ-centered living

4. Application to 2026

- What are we building this year?
- How deep is our spiritual foundation?

Discussion Questions:

1. What does it mean to hear versus do God's Word?
2. In what ways can a foundation appear strong but still be unstable?
3. How have past storms revealed the strength (or weakness) of your foundation?
4. What spiritual practices help you build on solid ground?

Personal Reflection & Journaling

- Where in my life am I building on "sand" instead of "rock"?
- What habits, attitudes, or choices need strengthening?
- How can I intentionally build on God's Word this year?

Use this section for prayerful reflection and intentional action this week.

1. Examine Your Foundation

- What currently shapes my decisions most: God's Word, my emotions, or external pressures?
- Where have I been *hearing* God's Word but not fully *applying* it?

2. Identify Vulnerable Areas

- What area of my life feels most unstable right now (faith, finances, relationships, purpose)?
- How might God be inviting me to strengthen this area through obedience?

3. Commit to a Practice

- What is one spiritual discipline I will commit to this week to reinforce my foundation (prayer, Scripture reading, fasting, accountability)?
- Write one specific action step I will take before the next class.

4. Storm-Ready Faith

- If a storm were to arise today, what evidence would show I am standing on solid ground?
- What changes would help me remain standing through future storms?

Prayer Focus:

Pray for wisdom, discipline, and commitment to build your life fully on Christ, not convenience or culture.

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January 28, 2026

"Removing Old Foundations"

Focal Scripture:

"Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing..." Isaiah 43:18–19 (NRSV)

Lesson Objective:

To recognize the necessity of letting go of past limitations, failures, and familiar patterns in order to embrace the new work God desires to do.

Lesson Overview:

- Before something new can be built, what is old and unstable must be removed. God calls His people to release past mindsets and trust Him to create new pathways—even in wilderness places.

1. Lesson Intro: God's Call to Release the Past (v. 18)

- Not denial, but discernment
- When memories hinder movement

2. God's Promise of Newness (v. 19a)

- God initiates the new thing
- Spiritual awareness: "Do you not perceive it?"

3. God's Power in Impossible Places (v. 19b)

- Roads in the wilderness
- Rivers in the desert

4. Preparing for a New Foundation

- Old foundations can limit new growth
- Trusting God beyond familiarity

Discussion Questions:

1. What are some “former things” that can hinder spiritual growth?
2. Why is it sometimes difficult to let go of the past—even painful parts?
3. How does God redefine possibility in this passage?
4. What might God be clearing away in order to build something new in you?

Personal Reflection & Journaling

- What old beliefs, habits, or fears need to be removed?
- Where do I sense God inviting me into something new?
- How can I make room for God’s fresh work in my life?

Use this section for prayerful reflection and intentional action this week.

1. Clearing the Ground

- What old foundation (mindset, fear, habit, or memory) must be removed so God can build something new in 2026?
- How has this foundation limited my growth or trust in God?

2. Transitioning into Renewal

- Where is God inviting me to stop looking backward and begin moving forward?
- What would renewal look like in this area of my life?

3. Discerning God’s New Work

- God says, “Do you not perceive it?” What signs of new beginnings do I see emerging right now?
- How can I stay spiritually aware and responsive this year?

4. Positioned for What’s Next

- What step of faith will I take this week to align with God’s new direction?
- What familiar thing do I need to trust God enough to release?

Prayer Focus:

God of new beginnings, help me release what is behind me and trust You with what lies ahead. Clear away every old foundation that prevents me from embracing Your new work. Amen.

Personal Journaling

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