



OUR STORY

A Legacy of Biblical Training, Apostolic Conviction, and Kingdom Service



The Early Home
2039 Holly Street, Charlotte, NC



Bishop Lang Priester
Founder and visionary leader



600 Capps Hill Mine Road
The re-established institutional home

From one classroom and three Monday-night classes to a renewed institute committed to lifelong Christian education, the story of the J. D. Williams, Sr. Bible Institute is one of vision, perseverance, and faithfulness to the Word of God.

The Beginning of a Vision

1984 - A Training School Is Born

In 1984, after twelve years of ministry in Charlotte, North Carolina, the church was growing and the vision for establishing congregations in other communities was expanding. With that growth came a clear need: men would need to be prepared to pastor new churches, and men and women would need biblical training to serve effectively across the ministries and departments of a growing church.

That need became the nucleus of a training school. The Joseph D. Williams Bible Institute was organized at **2039 Holly Street in Charlotte**. The school began modestly with one large classroom and three classes taught each Monday evening. Yet from those humble beginnings emerged a determined commitment to prepare believers for preaching, teaching, leadership, discipleship, and Christian service.



A SIMPLE BEGINNING. A LASTING PURPOSE.

One classroom. Three Monday-night classes.
A growing conviction that biblical education
must prepare God's people to serve with
knowledge, character, and confidence.

Early courses included **Old Testament Survey, New Testament Survey, Poetry and Prophecy, New Testament History, Old Testament History, How to Prepare Sermons, Law and Kingdom, and Great Doctrines of the Bible**, along with additional biblical and ministry subjects.

During this period, Elder Lang Priester was also pursuing biblical studies by correspondence through Southwest International Bible College, then located in San Antonio, Texas. His personal commitment to learning reinforced the school's emphasis on disciplined study, ministerial preparation, and the serious handling of Scripture.

A Season of Support and a Renewed Calling

Faithfulness Beyond One Location

The Charlotte training program later closed when a ministerial training class was organized at the headquarters church in Columbia, South Carolina, where ministers, elders, and teachers were expected to attend. Rather than create division or duplication within the body, Elder Priester chose to end the Charlotte teaching program and support the broader training effort in Columbia.

The vision, however, did not disappear. In 2017, Bishop Lang Priester again recognized the need for a Bible institute in Charlotte. With renewed determination to prepare men and women for ministry, he resolved that the J. D. Williams, Sr. Bible Institute would be re-established and that its teaching mission would continue with renewed purpose.



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Conference Room / Classroom
A setting for renewed biblical instruction

Re-Established in 2018

The J. D. Williams, Sr. Bible Institute was re-established in 2018 at the Progressive Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Inc., located at **600 Capps Hill Mine Road in Charlotte, North Carolina**. The renewed institute was envisioned as a place where students could pursue structured biblical education, ministry preparation, and religious-vocation studies in an atmosphere that values both academic excellence and spiritual formation.

The institute's re-establishment represented more than the reopening of a school. It was the continuation of a calling: to prepare pastors, ministers, teachers, church leaders, and believers to serve the Church with biblical knowledge, Apostolic conviction, spiritual maturity, and practical effectiveness.

The Heart of Our Story

The Bible Is Not Just Another Book. It Is *The Book*.

At the J. D. Williams, Sr. Bible Institute, Scripture is loved, honored, respected, and revered in every phase of the school's work. The institute is committed to the plenary verbal inspiration of the Bible and to teaching the Word of God as authoritative from the first verse of Genesis to the final verse of Revelation.

The institute exists to teach and train men and women so they may be equipped to preach, teach, defend the gospel of Jesus Christ, serve in Christian education, lead with integrity, and strengthen the ministries of the local church. Excellence is sought in the preparation of pastors, Bible teachers, Sunday school teachers, ministry leaders, and committed Christian men and women.

BIBLICAL SOUNDNESS

Faithful teaching rooted in the inspired Word of God.

APOSTOLIC CONVICTION

Clear doctrinal identity and confidence in biblical truth.

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Serious study, scholarship, and disciplined preparation.

PERSONAL FORMATION

A warm learning environment where faculty invest in students.

A Personal and Purposeful Learning Community

Students attending the J. D. Williams, Sr. Bible Institute are welcomed into a warm and personal atmosphere where faculty take a genuine interest in each learner. This intentional culture of mentorship and care reflects the institute's belief that Christian education is not merely the transfer of information, but the development of faithful servants prepared for meaningful Kingdom service.

*Today, the institute continues its historic mission: **to preserve Apostolic truth, advance Christian education, equip leaders, strengthen the Church, and prepare present and future generations to serve with knowledge, conviction, humility, and excellence.***

OUR STORY CONTINUES

Built on Scripture. Strengthened by faith. Committed to the future.