

Ray Johnston has a rich and varied background as a university and graduate-school professor, speaker, writer, and founder of Thrive Communications. He is also the founding pastor of Bayside Church in the Sacramento, California suburb of Granite Bay, which Ray describes as “a church for people who don’t like church.” Bayside has grown into one of the largest churches in the nation with more than 12,000 people coming together every weekend at the main campus and thousands more in multiple affiliated churches throughout the Sacramento region.

Ray is the founder of Thriving Churches International. Each year his Thrive Leadership Conference sells out months in advance with over 4,000 leaders attending from across the country and around the world. An in-demand speaker, he has spoken to more than 4,000,000 people over the last 10 years.

Ray is a veteran of both youth and adult ministry, having crisscrossed the nation for years as a top instructor for Youth Specialties. A graduate of Azusa Pacific University and Fuller Theological Seminary, he was Chairman of the Department of Youth Ministry at North Park College and an adjunct professor at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. He currently serves on the Board of Directors at Azusa Pacific University.

Ray and his wife, Carol, live in Granite Bay, California, and are the proud parents of Mark, Scott, Leslie, and Christy.

To learn more:

- Church: www.BaysideOnline.com
- Conference: www.ThriveConference.org
- Twitter: @rayjohnston
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ray.johnston.3150?fref=ts>
- Blog: www.RayJohnston.com

“Ray is one of our great Christian communicators.”
Mark Burnett, Five-Time Emmy Award Winner

“If anyone exudes the true nature and reality of hope, it’s Ray! You see it in his walk with God. You see it in his family life, both he and his wife, Carol. And you see it in the life of his church.”
Luis Palau, Evangelist and Founder of CityServe

“I like Ray Johnston because he has great faith in God and puts it into action in his church and in his life.”
Elmer Towns, Co-Founder, Liberty University

“Ray is a world-class guy, speaker, father, friend. . . you name it.”
Paul Carroll, New York Times Bestselling Author

“Ray Johnston is an incredible pastor and leader.”
Jud Wilhite, Pastor of Central Christian Church and New York Times Bestselling Author

“Ray doesn’t just teach about hope, he embodies it.”
Margaret Feinberg, One of Christianity Today’s “50 Women Most Shaping Culture and the Church Today

“Ray Johnston is one of the most effective pastoral leaders in America”
Mac Pier, CEO & Founder, New York City Leadership Center

“If there was ever a person who qualified as a 'Human Dynamo' it's my friend Ray Johnston.”
Bill Butterworth, Speaker and Author

“If hope were a person, it would be Ray Johnston! He exudes life, passion and amazing energy at all times.”
Brad Lomenick, Past President and Key Visionary, Catalyst

“Ray Johnston has more energy and creativity than ten men.”
Dave Stone, Southeast Christian Church, Louisville, Kentucky