



BIBLE Passages

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Journal

Dear Friends and Supporters,

During the Greco-Roman period, an Egyptian child was thought of as having been approved or faithful when he had fulfilled his pious duties to his parents. The idea of being faithful and approved was also used in the banking system of the ancient world. When coins were made, metal was heated and poured into molds and then allowed to cool. After the cooling process, the outer, uneven edges of the coin were shaved smooth. Some artisans, though, would shave extra amounts from their coins in order to keep back part of the precious metals for themselves. In contrast, those who placed only full weighted money into circulation were known as genuine men of integrity, and were considered trustworthy and faithful to the government. Similarly, a husband is thought of as faithful when he is loyal to his wife, making sure that she is cared for and loved. In examining the scriptures, it is easy to think of God as faithful. He, like a husband or reliable artisan, has been proven trustworthy and loyal. He takes care of His bride, His people, and sees to their every need. Psalm 33:4 says, "the Word of the Lord is upright, and all His work is done in faithfulness." Truly, God has been faithful to us. It would be impossible within the confines of

this newsletter to describe all the ways He has loved and provided for us, but you are one of those examples of just how faithful He has been.

Through your prayers, words of encouragement, and financial support God has been providing for us and helping us to continue in our work. Being able to train others for ministry, strengthen marriages, defend the faith, and reach souls with the gospel has been at the center of our work since the beginning of Bible Passages nearly 5 years ago.

During the month of June, God has continued to bless us with many opportunities to serve. At our home in Dripping Springs, we conducted a private weekend marriage retreat for a newlywed couple involved in ministry. Carla conducted a lady's day in Natalia Texas with a good number of women present from numerous area congregations. I preached a series of

2021 Schedule:

June 16

Summer Series, Lewisville TX

June 23

Summer Series, Georgetown TX

June 26

Ladies Day, Natalia, TX

June 27-30

Gospel Meeting, Natalia, TX

June-July

WVBS

July 9-11

Marriage Seminar

Georgetown, TX

July-October

BVBI 1st Quarter

September 16-19

Bear Valley Lectures

Denver CO

October 14-17

Linder Road Lectures

Meridian, ID

October 24-28

WVSOP Lectureship

November 5-7

Cold Harbor Road Lectures

Cold Harbor, VA



The Natalia church of Christ hosted a gospel meeting, and had previously worked hard by knocking doors all around the community.

lessons in Natalia as a part of the congregation's large and very successful outreach campaign resulting in several visitors present, and one baptism. I preached sermons in Lewisville, Georgetown, and Victoria, Texas, and also wrote and recorded scripts for 4 more of our new "Connections" videos at World Video Bible School (to be released later this year) . During June, we also corresponded with numerous individuals regarding the Bible Lands Studies programs for next year and I also completed the writing of three separate manuscripts for the West Virginia School of Preaching lectureship book. These manuscripts are, in effect, commentaries on Psalms 32, 103, and 107. I've also spent time in advising former students, friends, and fellow preachers. Overall, our work for the month of June has been very productive, but most of all we were very excited to spend some time with our grandchildren in our home in Dripping Springs.

Our dear friends and brother and sisters in Christ. Thank you for you support. Without you, this work would not be possible. We are exceedingly grateful and so honored to be in the ministry.

In Him, *John*



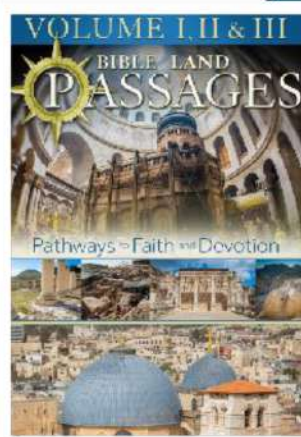
Searching For Truth is now available in seven languages!

Searching for Truth is now available in English, Spanish, Swahili, Korean, Russian, American Sign Language and now in Mandarin. William Chen, pictured with his wife Yolanda, is a valuable part of the staff at World Video Bible School and has just completed the translation into Mandarin. We are grateful for his talent and know many will benefit from it!

ISRAEL STUDIES TOUR

Our 2021 Israel tour and studies program has had to be rescheduled once again because of Covid restrictions.

We hope you'll join us in March 2022! Details are here: <https://www.biblepassages.net/2021>



The complete set of Bible Land Passages documentaries is now available in one set through WVBS!



L-R: Raoul Ferris taught an evangelism class each night in Natalia before the gospel meeting...Mat and Rudy Cain planning great things at World Video Bible School...with Tyler and Natalie King and Kolton, Katy and Lucy Ballance...good men Jesse Stuart and Raoul Ferris with John during the gospel meeting in Natalia...Some preparatory work for Carla's upcoming class at Bear Valley called "Personal Spiritual Growth"...with the sweet Cammack family, John's former students from SWSBS...A wonderful baptism during the Natalia meeting...John has been building a fence to cover the propane tank (and getting exercise in the process)...New friends in Natalia, Ben and Yolanda Rodriguez and their sweet daughter Theresa Schlag.



Carla's Comments

Dear friends,

On June 14, 1986, John and I were married. I was 18; he was 21. We were babies, but we were babies who had been taught to know and honor the Lord, and we knew that marriage was a lifetime commitment. We were committed to each other. We both had parents who loved each other and had shown us how to live. In 35 years, we have grown together in love and we've grown in our love for God. He has blessed us over and over, especially in the last year. Some of the blessings didn't *feel* like blessings at the time, but He has used even the hard things to help us see how much He loves us and cares for us.

Two weeks ago we went back to Temple for an appointment with a geneticist who was recommended by John's electrophysiologist. Since they could find no cause for his heart event, they wanted to dig a little deeper to see if there might be some sort of "misspelling" (as she called it) in one of the genes related to his heart. Thankfully the testing is free, and I am hoping it might give us some sort of reason behind what happened. For me, not knowing the "why" is still troubling. I'd LOVE it if a doctor said, "We know why this happened. Here is how we will fix it, and we guarantee John will never have another issue with his heart." Realistically, I know that's not likely. But what we have abundantly is the knowledge that God is good. He is sovereign, and we can trust Him to always do what is right, no matter what that looks like. Recently I was able to write some of my thoughts about his heart event. If you'd like to read it, you can see it on Come Fill Your Cup's website, called "That Sunday Morning". Online readers can see the [link here](#) or on CFYC's Facebook page.

Mom will soon be moving to be near my brother and his wife in Kyle, about 30 minutes from Dripping Springs. They have a little apartment (that used to be their office) that is just the right size for her. They travel fairly often but are home more consistently than John and I are. We have lived next door to both sets of our parents for more than twenty years. Not many preacher families are blessed with that. As they have aged, we've been blessed to help care for their needs and I pray that we have honored them! John and I have surely been blessed with godly, faithful, wonderful parents!



How I love these precious little girls!



We pretty much planned our wedding during Friday night cheese enchilada dinners at Herberts!

Thank you, friends, for your love, your support, your encouragement, your friendship and your influence. We pray God's richest blessings upon you! Love, *Carla*