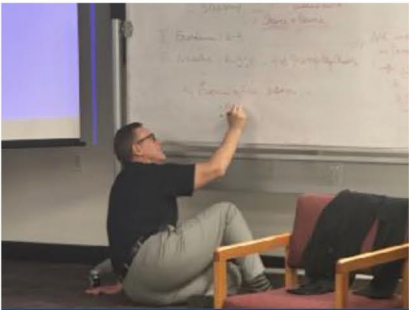


**Special Edition**  
**END OF YEAR**  
**FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN**  
 All contributions are tax-deductible. We would welcome  
 monthly...one-Time...lump sum contributions!  
**Would you partner with us in 2024?**



**January**  
 Off to Bear Valley (and John's sometimes unconventional teaching methods!)



**February**  
 Back to TX for a marriage retreat for the University congregation's Young Married



**March**  
 A wonderful tour to Israel with beautiful people!



**April**  
 Equipped Conference - Bowling Green, KY



**May**  
 Enjoying our "Looking Up" Podcast!



**June**  
 Several Summer Series'



**July**  
 Help from Brian & Shannon Ketchem



**August**  
 BVBI Women's Program



**September**  
 Marriage Seminar in New Hampshire



**October**  
 Mediterranean Cruise/Study Tour



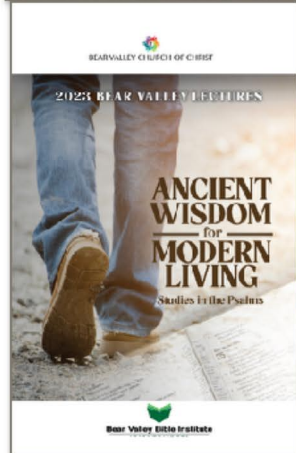
**November**  
 WVBS End of Year Banquet



**December**  
 2024 Scripture Writing



Connections Videos are dedicated to researching and revealing the compelling connections between faith and fact gleaned from the Bible and the world of archaeology and geography.



John and Carla both took part in the Bear Valley Lectures in 2023. Carla was an editor for the lectureship book and John compiled a section on seven psalms.



John and Carla both write for the Jenkins Institute. John took part in the compilation of this yearly study guide (order here: <https://www.thejenkinsinstitute.com/shop/meeting-gods-people-digital-version>) and Carla contributes to the women's column "Don't Lose Heart".



Carla's daily scripture writing program, called "Write On My Heart Every Word", continues to grow. The facebook group has close to 6,000 members, and in the four years that it has been published, the PDF's have been downloaded nearly 52,000 times. To download it, follow this link: <https://walkingwherejesuswalked.com/2023/11/28/beginning-writing-genesis-in-2024/>

### 2024 Schedule:

January-March  
 Bear Valley Bible Institute  
January 27  
 Ladies Day, Midtown (Victoria, TX)  
March 2-16  
 BVBI Bible Lands Study Tour  
March 22-24  
 Marriage Seminar  
 Burns Flat, OK  
April 18-20  
 Equipped Workshop,  
 Bowling Green, KY  
April 21-25  
 Gospel Meeting, Ooltewah, TN  
April 27  
 Ladies Day, Weber Rd,  
 Corpus Christi, TX  
May 11-16  
 Gospel Meeting, Kimberley, ID  
May 17-19  
 Graduation Exercises BVBI  
May 22-June 8  
 PTP Bible Lands Study Tour  
August-October  
 Bear Valley Bible Institute  
August 16-22  
 Polishing the Pulpit  
September 19-22  
 BVBI Lectureship  
October 17-20  
 Linder Rd (ID) Lectureship  
October 25-27  
 Marriage Seminar  
 Brown Trail, Bedford TX  
November-December 2023  
 WVBS and other TX projects

**Ongoing/Weekly Commitments:**  
 Looking Up Podcast  
 Write On My Heart Every Word  
 (Scripture Writing)  
 WVBS Temple Project

## Carla's Comments

Dear friends,

My two least favorite parts of our work are all wrapped up in these few pages: listing the things we have done this year (or, much better said, what God has done this year) and asking for financial support. It is all very uncomfortable and yet very necessary. While it is uncomfortable, it is also faith-building to see how God uses His people to care for us. He has always provided what we need!

I've said it before, but it's worth repeating: in his prayers, John often thanks God for allowing us to be in ministry. It is the best work on earth. We know that what we do serves a higher purpose and calling. We pray that we can make a difference on earth in order to see more souls in heaven. So, that is the purpose of this uncomfortable "fund-raiser".

THANK YOU for the many ways you support us. In the last couple of years, we have lost some of our financial support due to the economy and the pandemic, so if you are aware of an individual or congregation looking to support a good work, **would you keep us in mind?** We love and appreciate you all more than you know. Please continue to pray for us. Love, *Carla*

### YEAR-END SUMMARY

\*At Bear Valley Bible Institute: From January through March, we worked with 24 full-time students at Bear Valley Bible Institute International in Denver, Colorado. Then from August to October, we worked with 23 full-time students. Our work involves instruction, grading, mentoring, guidance, and counseling. While in Denver we also conduct regular gatherings at the Bear Valley house called "Ministry Moments". These gatherings include dinner, prayer, and an interview with ministers and their spouses. Courses John has taught at Bear Valley have included 1 and 2 Thessalonians/Philippians, Bible Geography, Church History, Divided Kingdom, and Biblical Counseling. I also wrote an extensive manuscript for a chapter in the Bear Valley lectureship on the book of Psalms.

\*We worked with various US congregations for preaching appointments, ladies' days, gospel meetings, teacher training, and marriage seminars. Those places included San Marcos, Texas; Pigeon Forge TN; Seville TN; Gatlinburg TN; Richmond, KY; Bowling Green, KY; Oklahoma City, OK; Denver, CO; Tilton, NH; and Dripping Springs, TX.

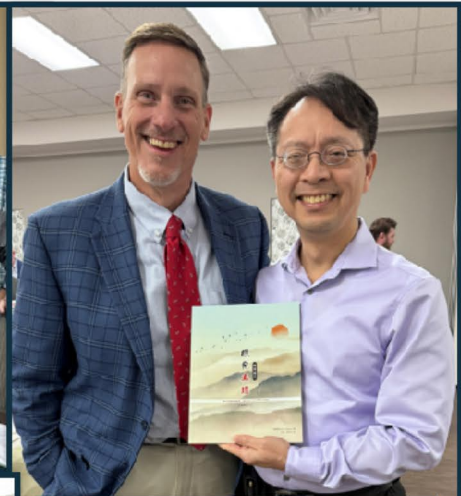
\*Working abroad, I preached in several locations in Israel as well as Greece and Italy. In the month of March, we led a group of 37 on a 12 day study program in Israel. This group was made up of various preachers, teachers, and Christians from various states in the US. In October we led and taught 56 individuals on a study program and tour to numerous places associated with the history of the early church and the life of the apostle Paul.

\*Carla continues her work as the Dean of Women at the Bear Valley Bible Institute. She administers the daily scripture writing program called *Write on my Heart Every Word*. This year she spoke at several ladies' days, at Focal Point in San Marcos, TX, taught two classes at Bear Valley Bible Institute in Denver, CO; spoke at the "Come Fill Your Cup" retreat in Madill, OK and at Polishing the Pulpit. She also continues to co-host the popular women's podcast called "Looking Up" alongside Kathy Pollard. She regularly mentors and counsels with many women.

\*We released five New Bible Land Passages Connection Videos. The titles for those are as follows: "A Temple to Yahweh and His Wife?"; "Where a Sermon Changed the World"; "Gideon's 300: Battle for the Ages; How Did God Work in Joppa?"; and "Salt Sea: Finding the Dead Sea in the Bible". We also continue to work on the five-part series called "The Temple: Then and Now", and are anticipating its release early next year.

\*We've been so blessed by the expertise of Brian Ketchem, who overhauled and improved our website. He and his wife, Shannon, helped facilitate and coordinate our study tours. We look forward to our continued fellowship!

\*We counseled with several couples and individuals, including couples and families in ministry who were in crises. We have also written for several publications including a series of short articles that will appear in the 2024 Daily Devotional Book produced by the Jenkins Institute.



(L-R) Annual board meeting at WWBS...John and William Chen, translator for the Mandarin Searching for Truth...John endured a torn retina in August...Carla with Evelyn Pledger at Weber Road in Corpus Christi, TX...The trees on our property suffered extreme damage during the February ice storm...John speaking on the Great Smoky Mountain Marriage Retreat...Worshipping with the Nazareth church of Christ with our March Israel group... Our newest sweet granddaughter, Darcy...Carla with her mother, Janice Garner...Carla and Kathy Pollard recording a weekly podcast called "Looking Up"