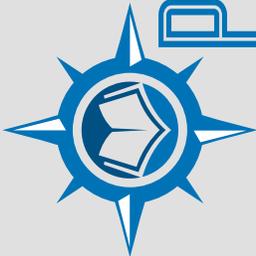


Journal

BIBLE
PASSAGES



Dear Supporters and Friends,

I've often wondered; how did first century preachers and teachers accomplish their mission? How did they travel from place to place, preach the word, collect support, and keep up with their responsibilities— all without the aid of a computer nor with any of our many modern conveniences and ease of transportation? I've always stood amazed at the faith of those early disciples who braved trial and hardship - and often persecution - to reach souls with the beautiful gospel of Christ. Today, Carla and I can travel with ease and can communicate in an instant with family and friends around the world. Where we have traveled, we are safe and largely uninhibited from teaching and preaching. We are nearly always surrounded by brethren and are never threatened. Now more than ever, as I consider our work, I have gained a greater admiration for those early Christians who went everywhere preaching the word. I am likewise encouraged by what we see and hear today.

As we move about between projects and locations, we continue to be energized by the people we meet, the lessons we are privileged to share, the stories we hear, and the glorious gospel of Christ which saves men's souls. Just a few days prior to writing this report I received the following news from World Video Bible School regarding a visit that WVBS representative Brian Howard made: *"Hi Brian, You came and represented World Video Bible School this last summer in Owatonna, Minnesota. I grabbed a few of the Searching for the Truth DVDs you left. We gave one to our neighbor who is dying of cancer. We have tried to reach him for several years now but he's always been too busy. This DVD was a perfect fit for him. He watched it and*



Most of our Bible Land Passages group in front of Rome's Colosseum - we grew to love each of these individuals very much!

told us everything made perfect sense to him. He said he wanted to study more on baptism. He came over for a study last Thursday and was baptized last night. He cried tears of happiness and so did we. He and his family are coming to worship on Sunday and we can minister to his family after his passing. Thank you so much for coming and bringing those DVD's." Again, we praise God! His glorious gospel is so powerful, and this story only serves to remind us that the things we all work on today, or during this month or year may not produce the desired fruit until sometime later. It is a constant reminder that we must plant seeds today, others will often water, but it is God that gives the increase (1 Cor. 3:6).

Brethren, we thank God for you. Your prayers, encouragement, and support have allowed us to not only hear of fruit being borne of past projects, but also to be involved in a very unique work that reaches many souls in many different places. As October began I found myself administering final exams and wrapping up my classes at Bear Valley Bible Institute, then it was off to meet a group of 29 in Rome where we began a 14 day Bible Lands Studies program. This Mediterranean BLP program was spearheaded by our dear friend Jonathan Moore, who did an excellent job organizing the program, teaching and guiding. We ended up visiting numerous sites, conducting many lectures and devotionals, and we developed a bond and kinship with Christians on the trip who had come from Texas, Kentucky, Tennessee, Oklahoma, Ohio, and Alabama. We also reconnected with Maurice and Inaam Jadon of Nazareth, Israel. It was wonderful getting to see them again and to deliver to them money collected from previous Lord's day gatherings of our BLP's groups. Overall, we learned so many wonderful things that will help us in defending the faith and fortifying the faith of the church, but most exciting, we developed Christian bonds with some wonderful Christian brethren who have forever changed our lives.

Finally, the month of October found us back in the Mountains of Colorado for the Bear Valley Family Retreat and then to Clyde, Texas where Carla and I conducted a marriage seminar. We loved being with members of the Bear Valley family and were likewise very encouraged by the brethren in Clyde. There, we were privileged to meet some wonderfully tender-hearted elders in the church along David and Susan Peterson, their dedicated preacher and his wife, who are natives of India but were converted some 20 years ago in the United States. They are a delightful couple and so dedicated to the work of the Lord. The month of October has reminded us of the transformative power of the gospel and likewise the opportunities the Lord has used to reach so many different souls in so many different places. We thank you for this privilege and above all our Heavenly Father.

In Him, *John W. Moore*

Could you please help us by sharing our work?

WE CONTINUE TO BE THANKFUL FOR YOUR FRIENDSHIP...YOUR ENCOURAGING WORDS...YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT...AND MOST OF ALL, FOR YOUR PRAYERS. WE KNOW THAT CONGREGATIONS ARE WORKING ON THEIR PLANS FOR 2019. BIBLE PASSAGES CONTINUES TO LACK THE FUNDS NEEDED TO MEET OUR BUDGET, BUT WE ALSO CONTINUE TO TRUST THAT THE LORD WILL PROVIDE FOR OUR NEEDS. WOULD YOU PLEASE CONSIDER RECOMMENDING OUR WORK TO YOUR ELDERS OR BUDGET COMMITTEE? WE WOULD BE GLAD TO MEET WITH ANYONE INTERESTED.



L-R: John with Ernest Repko, a fellow Christian who works on the cruise ship...a cast of a victim at Pompeii...chapel at Bear Valley during Blitz week...David and Susan Peterson, who minister with the Clyde, TX congregation...Lacey, Holly, Wynn and Ashley - friends on the Mediterranean cruise...Emmy turned one this month!...Carla with lovely Mary McCleskey and Dorothy Sims...John, Corey Sawyers, Tyler King and Dave Chamberlain...Micah, Courtney and their fellow Texas A&M friends at the McCarty fall retreat...on the road again!...John speaking to the group from Mars Hill in Athens.

Carla's Comments

God's word came to life a couple of weeks ago as we climbed to the top of Mars Hill in Athens, Greece. I'll go ahead and reveal my lack of intelligence here: in my mind, Mars Hill was a vague, abstract place where Paul argued with ignorant people. But in reality, nothing could be further from the truth. Athens surprised me in many ways, especially with its topography. It seemed to be in a basin, with hills surrounding it, but most impressive were several craggy, precipitous mesas that looked as though huge fists had shoved their way through the surface of the earth. Atop these hills were monuments that could be seen from almost anywhere in the city below, and one of those rocky outcroppings held the Acropolis, with the famous marbled columns of the Parthenon visible from miles away.



Visiting the Acropolis / Parthenon / Mars Hill in Athens made Acts 17 come to life!

Mars Hill today is a tumble of boulders lying on a lesser hill below the Acropolis. A large plaque at its base reveals Paul's sermon from Acts 17 inscribed in Greek. In the center, steep, uneven steps clamber their way to the top, but on the side, a more sedate stairway is available for less adventurous visitors (me!) On the spot where Paul reasoned with the Athenians, John reasoned with us about how God used this sophisticated, advanced city as a vehicle to take the gospel to the rest of the world. He talked about how Paul took the Athenians where they were, helping them to see the greatness of God, and using logic to explain how God "is not far from each one of us," (Acts 17:27). They were not ignorant, in the critical sense that we know the word from verse 23 - the translation means that they were *unaware* of the true God. But after that day, many were intrigued and some joined Paul, and believed. My mind's eye that day could just see Paul standing there in the midst of Athenian men and women, pointing up to the already centuries-old Parthenon, dedicated to Athena. "The God who made the world and all things in it...does not dwell in temples made with hands, nor is He served by human hands...since He Himself gives to all people life and breath and all things..." What a visual! Our God is nothing like the gods they served. Mythology describes Greeks who sacrificed themselves for their lifeless gods - but our living God sacrificed Himself for us. My faith was strengthened. Once again, seeing with my own eyes helped me to understand scripture more fully.

Other highlights of the studies program included coming across Ernest Repko. During one of our meetings on the ship, we noticed a crew member entering the room and paying close attention to what John was saying about Israel. Afterwards, John engaged him in conversation (you know he makes friends wherever he goes!) and discovered that he, too, is a Christian! He works with the cruise line's audio/visual department and happened to be there to help with our powerpoint setup. We ended up getting to know him quite well - he is from Ukraine, feeling quite alone in his faith on the ship, and missing his wife, who is pregnant with their first child. I think we ended up being a blessing to him, as he was to us!



Looking down on Mars Hill from the Acropolis - the people climbing on it looked like ants!

I mentioned Alyssa's eye last month. In August they saw a cornea specialist who did not give her good news. Jake said that there is "nothing left that man can do" to heal her. But we know that God is able to do "exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think"! John's mother is recovering from her broken hip. I have plans to take Mom to see her sister in Atlanta in a couple of weeks. They haven't seen each other in several years and are both excited to be together. John and I are happy to be home during November and December, with lots of upcoming wedding activities, holidays and happy family time. We continue to be thankful for the many ways that you all support our work - prayerfully, emotionally, financially. May God bless you as you continue to serve Him! *Carla*

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