



BIBLE Passages

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Journal

Dear Friends and Supporters,

God's creation is spectacular. Driving from Denver to Dripping Springs near the end of April gave us a chance to see how spring gradually unfolds and emerges across the country. March and April saw record snowfall in Denver, and that continued in early May. With the rise in temperatures and intense Colorado sunshine, the snow melts away quickly giving the ground the desperately needed moisture in the arid climate of Denver's desert-like terrain. While spring in Denver has taken its time in arriving, in Texas it was a different story. By the time we arrived for our spring and summer work, the beautiful bluebonnets were overgrown by the explosion of grass and weeds, reminding us that this fallen world, along with our flesh, is perishable. The apostle Peter quoting from Isaiah said, "All flesh is as grass, and the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withers and the flower thereof fades away, but the word of the Lord endures forever" (1 Peter 1:24-25). The changing of the seasons and the tenuous nature of the natural world reminds us of just how important our work is, and also that time is of the essence. We continue to work while it is yet day, "for the night cometh" and man's work on earth will be no more.

Our work during April involved a number of projects, including marital counseling with some of our current and past students, along with other personal counseling sessions conducted for a few individuals. We also spent valuable time with students in various informal settings (including lunch in our home for the graduating seniors and their families,) and also in organizing and delivering a series of lessons to members at Bear Valley on Sunday nights. One of the major events we hosted during the month was an all-day Saturday marriage seminar at the park for Bear Valley students. We provided lunch, handouts, and spent the day teaching and interacting with these wonderful

couples who were seeking to strengthen and enrich their marriages.

Some of our ongoing projects include writing scripts for the new Bible Land Passages "Connections" series, editing and finalizing Volume III of the BLP documentary series,



This group of fabulous young people spent a beautiful Colorado spring day with us, enriching our marriages!

2021 Schedule:

- [May 14-19](#)
Marriage Sem./Gospel Mtg.
Wasila, AK
- [May 21](#)
BVBI Graduation
- [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

and developing a program for the 2022 Bible Lands Studies Tour. Beginning in June, we will begin filming the new series (the one I have been preparing for since April) called “Connections: Where Faith and Fact Converge”. Overall April has been very productive but we continue to look for ways to improve. Please pray for us in this regard.

As I close, please know that we deeply appreciate your support and prayers. Without you this work would not be possible. Thank you for your donations and many words of encouragement. We look forward to seeing how God will continue to work in the future. May God bless you richly!

John

We humbly ask that you please consider
Bible Passages
 in your contributions and/or 2021 church budgets.

If you'd like to know more about what we do, go to our website, and click the “Work and Ministries” tab.

Thank you!

Did you know we have a good number of faith-building articles on our blog?

www.biblepassages.net/blog



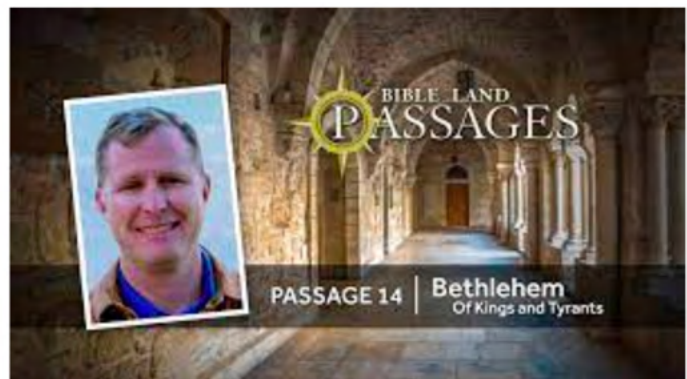
Back to Mongolia!

We are blessed to introduce to you one of our most recent graduates, Erdenedavaa Purvee (Eric), his wife Munkhzaya (Zaya) and children, Enguun, Yenuun, Irmuun. Eric and his family were born in Mongolia and have lived there all of their lives, with the exception of the two year period of study at Bear Valley Bible Institute. Soon they will be moving back to Mongolia to work with the only church of Christ in that nation of over 3.2 million souls. Both Eric and Zaya have an encouraging and uplifting story of the circumstances that surrounded their decision to become Christians. Both of them have sacrificed so much to do the Lord's work. We ask that you keep them in your prayers as they embark on this new chapter in their lives.

ISRAEL STUDIES TOUR

Our May-June 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>



Check out Bible Land Passages' and WVBS' latest release - "Bethlehem: Of Kings and Tyrants"



L-R: We enjoyed having most of the seniors and their families over for lunch... We didn't get to be there, but Jackson, Emmy, and Clara went to meet Turner... One of the Sunday evening singings/devotionals in the BV parking lot... John had a checkup with Dr. Olsovsky, the electrophysiologist who implanted his defibrillator... Carla's office often doubles as a diaper-change station (here - Katy and Lucy Ballance) and playground... John spoke one evening for Digital Bible Study (pictured with Eric Owens and Jonathan Jenkins)... we



enjoyed several Bible studies with the Hites and Brittney Henry and Heidi Schneider... a Saturday marriage enrichment seminar with students on a gorgeous spring day!



Carla's Comments

Dear friends,

Normally we are back in Texas for all of April, and the bluebonnets are in full bloom and we enjoy a few spring thunderstorms. This April, since we left Texas unusually late in February, we stayed for the majority of the month in Denver. We'd been told that March and April were Denver's snowiest months - and we experienced it! In fact, we spent our last Saturday in Colorado up in Rocky Mountain National Park, and experienced all four seasons in one day - snow, sunshine, a little heat, and a lot of cold! We missed the bluebonnets, but we enjoyed Colorado's beauty.

We spent as much of April as possible with the Bear Valley students, trying to mentor and encourage them. I prepared pizza rolls and served them in the parking lot while we enjoyed each other's company. John and I hosted an informal marriage enrichment seminar for any of the students who were interested, and it turned out to be a fun, beautiful day (and even included one of the single men!) On Sunday evenings we organized an outdoor singing and devotional not just for students but for Bear Valley members as well (since Covid had restricted many of our normal congregational activities.) We hosted Friday morning coffee and donuts and a devotional with any of the students who wanted to be up that early. Surprisingly, there were quite a few! We had Thursday evening devotionals with a couple of our women students along with Michael and Lynn Hite. We hosted the senior students and their families for lunch. Truly, we love all of the Bear Valley family and consider ourselves to be so blessed to enjoy fellowship with two wonderful congregations - both in Colorado and in Texas.

We packed up and headed back to Texas on April 27-28, because John had a check-up with his electrophysiologist on the 29th. He got a good report and will see him again in six months. John continues to improve - gaining strength and stamina. With each month that passes, I feel less worry about another issue with his heart. We've learned in a very real way that you never know "what your life will be like tomorrow. You are just a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away," (James 4:14). We don't take the days for granted. We don't take feeling "normal" for granted. And we've learned, too, that we can have God's peace in this life even if we don't know what each day will bring. It really does surpass all comprehension. Why am I surprised when what God promises us turns out to be true?

I continue working on scripture writing every day (and I am the administrator of a Facebook group of 2000 women who are also involved - let me know if you'd like to be added!) I do my best to stay involved with the Bear Valley student women, even from Texas. I have spent a lot of time this month proofreading manuscripts for the upcoming Bear Valley lectures, and doing paperwork for 2022's three Israel study programs. Never a dull moment!

As always, we love and appreciate each of you for your friendship, love, and many ways that you support us. We pray God's blessings upon you!



Our last Saturday in Colorado was spent in Rocky Mountain National Park



Clara loves her big brother (and her big sister!)

Love, *Carla*