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## Dear supporters and friends,

In Book II, chapter 23 of Eusebius' Ecclesiastical History, the story is told about a man named James "the Just" (probably the brother of Jesus) who was known for his habit of going into the temple to pray. Eusebius said that James "was frequently found upon his knees begging forgiveness for the people, so that his knees became hard like those of a camel, in consequence of his constantly bending them in his worship of God, and asking forgiveness for the people." We might say today that James had camel knees.

I certainly don't have camel knees, but I should. When I think about all the ways that God has blessed my life and the work He allows us to do, I can't help but want to praise and thank Him. You are one of those blessings. Your love, prayers, support, and encouragement have compelled us to do more, to love more, and to pray more. Thank you for all you do, and for spreading the word about the resources and works of Bible Passages.

As we look back over the last month it is easy to become excited about what God has been doing at Bear Valley Bible Institute and in the work of Bible Passages overall. During the month of January I was responsible for coordinating and facilitating each of the chapel sessions, and I have been teaching three accredited courses. On Monday, Wednesday, and Friday I teach a two hour course on church history. On Tuesday and Thursdays I teach nearly all day. For three hours in the morning I'm teaching the books of Thessalonians and Philipians. In the afternoon I'm teaching a course on Biblical Counseling. I have 24 students overall who hail from eight different states. It's been truly joyous to see them grow and develop in the faith.

We are also blessed to spend some quality time outside of class mentoring and counseling. Other endeavors this month have included my teaching a course on parenting at the Bear Valley congregation, counseling and providing advice over the phone for individuals and those in ministry. Our work continues on the Temple Project, and we have also been busy making preparations for the seven churches of Asia and journeys of Paul tour to be conducted for Bear Valley students, alumni, and friends this coming March. Brian Ketchem, who partners with us in our work, and Mat Cain from World Video Bible School will be participating in the tour and capturing video footage for use in future projects.

Overall the last month has been extremely busy for us, but we continue to hear good reports about those using Bible Passages' tools and resources. Thank you so much for all your love and support. Without you this work simply would not be possible.

Brethren, we deeply appreciate you and all your love and support! Thank you for all you do. *John*



Working on Bible Passages projects at WVBS with (l-r) Kasey Cain, Rudy Cain, Mat Cain, and Jonathan Moore

## Scripture Writing



From our friends John and Maria Kallenbach: "The Daily Scripture Writing program has been successful in keeping my wife and I regularly engaged in God's word. There is something about the exercise of actually writing the scripture that results in new connections being made, even when revisiting familiar passages. We love the structure it has provided us to become better acquainted with the holy scriptures." John's wife, Maria, is pictured here with one of their customers (we covered his face since we could not ask his permission to use his photo). "He had seen Maria's Facebook post about scripture writing, expressed interest, and Maria sent him a workbook. He says he has been writing ever since. The program does provide an avenue for sharing the good news in a way that people seemed to be genuinely receptive."

**To God be the glory!**

## Meet Alex and Savanna Rosson!



Alex and Savanna are newlyweds who moved from West Tennessee to study at Bear Valley Bible Institute. During the summer of 2024, they have a summer internship in Salmon, Idaho, at the Bryan Avenue church of Christ. After graduation, they will move to Salmon where he will begin working full time with the congregation as the pulpit minister. We have loved getting to know Alex and Savanna, and know they bless all who meet them!

## God is doing great things!

"Teaching from your Searching for Truth book tonight at a church where the preacher was out of town in AL..."

Roy Johnson, Lads to Leaders

"Good morning! I wanted to drop you a note to thank you for your podcast... I'm on the first few episodes and just wanted to thank you for sharing your words of wisdom - I look forward to hearing the rest of your and Kathy's episodes!"

Hayley Harrison Tutt

## 2024 Schedule:

### January-March

Bear Valley Bible Institute

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,

I'm looking out the window at what was \*supposed\* to be a "coating to an inch" of snow that so far has turned into six or seven inches, and is continuing to fall...but we are warm and cozy inside the little Bear Valley cottage. The fresh snowfall is so beautiful against the evergreens behind the house! What is it about these kinds of days that make me want to make soup and bake cookies?

Since the writing of our last report, we enjoyed having our kids and grandkids home for Christmas. It was especially fun watching the little girls interact, since the last time they were all together, they mostly just watched each other with curiosity. This time they played together, the weather was great, we had great food, and John and I soaked up being with all of them. We also were so glad to get to spend a lively evening with my mom and Doug and Karen and all of their family!

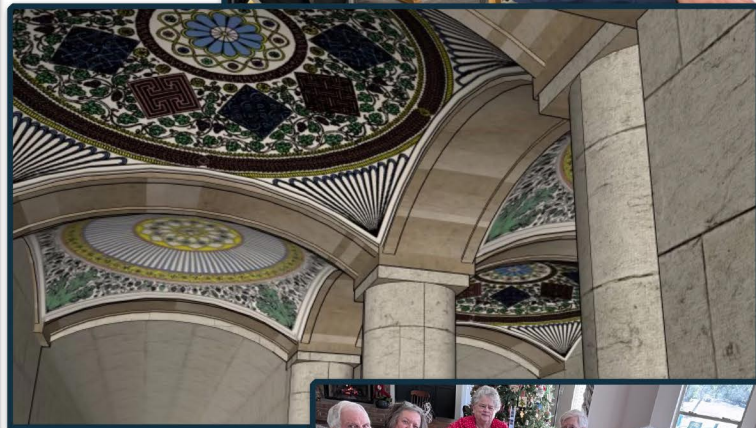


We headed back to Denver in early January and John jumped back into teaching. This quarter is pretty challenging since he is teaching three classes (he normally just teaches two per quarter.) I am sitting in on his Church History class with the first years - he's an excellent teacher and his love for teaching AND for the students is so evident. I am also sitting in on Michael Hite's Luke class with the seniors and love the verse-by-verse instruction. There has been a lot of sickness among the students this quarter...which is almost impossible to avoid during the winter months when they are together inside so much. I've enjoyed continuing to work with the student women alongside my friend and co-worker Teri Autrey, and we've just begun planning for Bear Valley's women's classes for the September lectureship.

There have been so many wonderful reports about people who are involved with the Scripture Writing program! I believe many have seen how beneficial it is to spend time soaking in the Word - slowly and methodically. I love the excitement I can see in the comments made by people who are having "light bulb moments" in their studies. I am having many of my own! We are going through Genesis this year and just a couple of days ago Noah was born - ha! It's never too late to jump in - see details here: <https://walkingwherejesuswalked.com/2023/11/28/beginning-writing-genesis-in-2024/> . A good bit of my time is also spent with Kathy Pollard recording the podcast "Looking Up With Kathy and Carla" - now in our third season and this week was our fiftieth episode! We have had so much fun together recording...we pray before each episode that our words will always glorify God and be helpful to someone. We take turns choosing topics and then "driving" the episode. I always enjoy it MUCH more when it's Kathy's turn to drive!

We have both been busy preparing for the two upcoming Bible Land Passages trips. Both were supposed to include Israel, but with all that is happening in the Middle East, we had to make huge changes. So much work had already gone into the planning, but we had to go back to square one for both trips. However, we are excited about the new locations we will be seeing in Türkiye (the country's name has changed from Turkey) and Greece in March (with Bear Valley), and then Rome and Greece in May (with Polishing the Pulpit). We only have eight spots remaining for the May trip - would you like to come along?

Last weekend John and I flew back to Texas so that I could join with Erin for a ladies day in Victoria, Texas. I loved sharing the experience with her...and while we were there, John and I were "mystery readers" in Emmy's kindergarten class and we also got to have lunch with both Jackson and Emmy at school. It was so special! We also celebrated Clara's third birthday while we were there. We are missing all of our family and some days feel so far from them. Facetime with Livi is fun, but not the same as squeezing her! On our way to Denver, we went through Fort Worth and saw Jake's family. Turner always has a book in her hands, and Darcy, almost three months old, is changing so fast. Doug and Karen are taking good care of Mom, but I miss her and being able to help her. But we love what we are blessed to do. We love you and thank you for all of the ways you encourage us and support us. May God continue to bless you! Love, *Carla*



Fall Quarter (l-r):  
 For several days we had below zero temps and lots of snow. Carla experimented with making snow by throwing hot water into the air!...Some of our BV students taking an exam...We got to be "mystery readers" for Emmy's kindergarten class...Sneak peek of the "Beautiful Gate" from the Temple project...Mike Vestal speaking in chapel at Bear Valley...Christmas Day guests in Dripping Springs...Bear Valley student Gabe Nichols giving a presentation in chapel of his semester in Africa...Erin speaking at the ladies day at the Midtown church of Christ in Victoria, TX...Sweet little Darcy has captured our hearts!