



March 2019

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BIBLE Passages

Journal

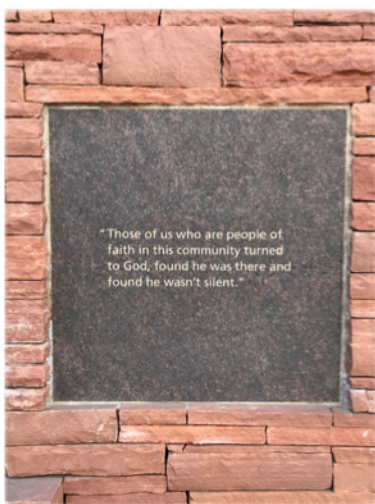
Dear Supporters and Friends,

Saying good bye to brethren in Christ is always hard, but it is made a little easier knowing that we will see them again, whether in this life or the one to come. After leaving Denver just a week ago we are already missing the work of the Lord at Bear Valley Bible Institute. Over the month of March we were so blessed to witness the progress and development of the students who have worked so hard to complete their notebook assignments, write the term papers, and finish their exams. The 3rd quarter of classes

officially came to a close near the beginning of March and it was so exciting to see just how much the students had learned and retained. Twenty-six students were enrolled in my Church History class and it was exciting to see them acquire a knowledge of what took place between the establishment of the church in the first century and the period of the Reformation. Our class was dedicated to not only understanding the emergence and establishment of the Western Catholics, Eastern Orthodox, and Islamic civilizations, but also to seeing how and why the church began its departure from truth. Important documents, debates, doctrines, councils, and the lives of key people were examined with the intent of helping students to not

only understand how various church groups began but also to encourage them not to repeat the mistakes of the past. Along the way we also focused on the elements and acts of history which served to transmit and preserve the Bible. We also focused our attention on the factors involved to bring about the reformation movement and the eventual restoration attempts in Europe. With each period of history I believe we were helping students to not only be better prepared to defend the faith today, but also to be encouraged by the acts of bravery and conviction that were often displayed by those who were attempting to honor God and make known His Word. I am convinced that courses in ancient, medieval, and modern church history are crucial for effective ministry.

As my classes in Church history and Bible Geography came to a close it was then that all the grading began. Every notebook had to be evaluated. Papers had to be read, exams graded, and final grades calculated; this



Part of the Columbine memorial

consumed nearly an entire week in the middle of the month. The rest of this week entailed preparation for the short course on Restoration history which I taught during the week of March 18-22. This is another important class for preaching students, and in many ways should be studied by all members of the church. The short course lasted only one week but meets from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. That class is being followed by a quarter-long course on denominational doctrines. Other parts of my work this past month included the writing of a manuscript for the Schertz lectureship book, speaking to a young men's training class in Brighton Colorado, teaching a month-long Sunday morning class at the Bear Valley congregation, and then conducting a gospel meeting in Hydro, Oklahoma.



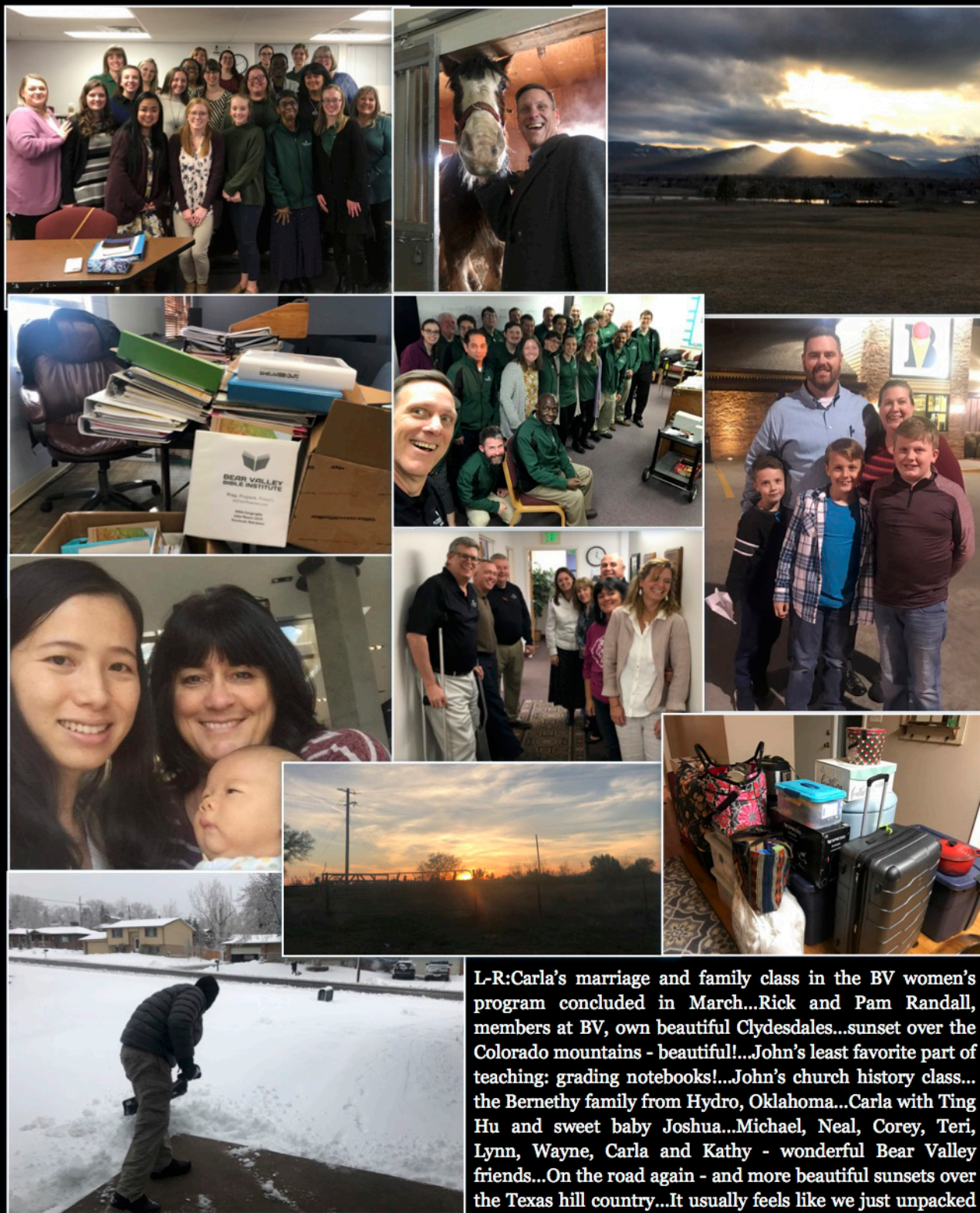
We were so encouraged by the brethren at Hydro, and the good work being done by Garrett Bernethy and his wife Cristen. We were privileged to be there as two congregations began to reunite in fellowship after a five-year long division.

Finally, we want all of you to know how much we appreciate your love and support. Your continued support of our work has helped us accomplish the things I mentioned above and much, more. Thank you for your contributions to this work, and thank you for your prayers. Above all, we are thankful to God. He continues to sustain us as we move from place to place seeking to do His will.

In Him, *John W. Moore*

What is our least favorite thing about Bible Passages?

Raising funds. We really, really dislike having to raise funds. But we must continue trying to raise funds as our budget remains unmet. We are truly and sincerely thankful for those of you who have helped us in so many ways - financially, emotionally, prayerfully, spiritually. It is both humbling and encouraging. Your donations to Bible Passages have helped us in a large way to continue our work of preaching the gospel, training souls for ministry, strengthening marriages, and defending the faith. We give glory to God and are so thankful to you for your willingness to help us in our work. Please continue to pray for us, and if you know of others who would like to help, please pass along our contact information. We would be honored to send them our monthly reports. Praise be to God.



L-R: Carla's marriage and family class in the BV women's program concluded in March...Rick and Pam Randall, members at BV, own beautiful Clydesdales...sunset over the Colorado mountains - beautiful!...John's least favorite part of teaching: grading notebooks!...John's church history class...the Bernethy family from Hydro, Oklahoma...Carla with Ting Hu and sweet baby Joshua...Michael, Neal, Corey, Teri, Lynn, Wayne, Carla and Kathy - wonderful Bear Valley friends...On the road again - and more beautiful sunsets over the Texas hill country...It usually feels like we just unpacked when it's time to pack again.....March brought regular snow to Colorado - and lots of snow shoveling!

Carla's Comments

Recently, one of my tasks was to complete a manuscript for a lectureship, and my assigned topic was "Of Good Report" from Philippians 4:8: "whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things." (NASB) All of the women who spoke were assigned these words to explain. Mine was a little tough. "Of good report" comes from *euphemos* - a word used only once in the New Testament, so I couldn't compare its usage with other instances to help get a better grasp on its meaning. And how was I going to write ten+ pages about it? But it helped to begin by thinking about Paul, who wrote those inspired words, and his positive mindset and outlook on life - his writings are evidence of how he thought on things of good report. Before he encountered the Lord on the road to Damascus, he was party to the murder of innocent Christians. He threatened and detained them, dragging them to prison, no doubt separating families and causing them tremendous pain. But the letters he wrote later, that we read today, show his changed heart to be tender and loving, and I can't help thinking that he had difficult memories and deep regrets about what he'd done. Yet - he still knew peace. He was confident in his ultimate destination. So many of us struggle with past regrets and doubts about our salvation - but he didn't. The more I studied the topic for my manuscript, the more I understood how he accomplished this. He had trained his mind to think on - to **dwell** on - all things that were true and right, not lies that the devil would want him to believe. He meditated on what was honorable and pure and excellent and praiseworthy rather than worrying about past sin that God had already cast "into the depths of the sea" (Micah 7:19.) And combined with the prayer he describes in verse six and the practice he describes in verse nine, this helps to explain how he had - and how we can have the peace that "surpasses all comprehension".



Our last night in Colorado for a few months!

We woke up early last Friday morning (March 29) to begin our journey from Dripping Springs to Hydro, Oklahoma for a ladies day and a gospel meeting - and when the alarm clock went off at 2:30 a.m. I had to lay there for a moment, peering around in the dark at my surroundings - did the ceiling look like the Denver ceiling, or the Dripping ceiling, or a hotel ceiling? It took a few minutes for the cobwebs to clear before I remembered we had arrived back to our Texas home a few days earlier but it was time to leave again for a few days! January, February, and March flew by. Our moves back and forth have seemed to divide our life into segments and that makes time seem even more fleeting. But we continue to enjoy being able to spend our time between both homes.

We had a lot of company during March - Micah and Courtney came up during the first weekend and arrived just in time for a pretty decent snowstorm! We pulled together a couple of inflatable tubes and a semi-broken sled, and headed up into the foothills to have some sledding fun (and finished breaking the rest of the sled - but no bones!) We also got to see April and Cory Myers for a quick visit while they were on their way into the mountains to ski. John and

I both had birthdays, and we enjoyed having the Bear Valley faculty as well as Sam and Julie Dilbeck over to the little house to celebrate John. And we especially enjoyed having groups of students over to celebrate their birthday months. March saw the end of my class in the women's program at Bear Valley - it's so easy to love those women! I'm continuing to write for Christian Woman - it seems I always am behind on something that's due!

As always - we thank you from the bottom of our hearts for the support you provide in so many different ways. We thank God for your love! *Carla*



This little girl enjoys her mexican food - and this little boy is as sweet as he can be!