

BRIAN AND SHANNON NEWSLETTER JULY 2023

So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia, and from there they sailed to Cyprus. When they arrived at Salamis, they proclaimed the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews. And they had John to assist them. (Acts 13:4-5)



Brian preaching at family reunion

Prior to the family reunion, Shannon and I swung by St. Louis to see the Gateway Arch. We have a goal to make it to all 63 National Parks and this was the 7th one we crossed off the list.



Shannon and I at Gateway Arch

MINISTRY UPDATES



Midweek Chapel at High Rock Bible Camp

Before deciding to embark on a month-long road trip, my original summer plan solely consisted of co-directing High Rock Bible Camp pre-teen week. The theme for camp was Little People, Big God and we had 85 8–12-year-olds. I spoke on Sunday morning before camp officially started, and we had a great week

witnessing the love for God in the campers and the staff. It is truly powerful to see the world through kids' eyes, and our staff was a team of rock stars! It was exhausting but also genuinely rewarding.

Pictured on the right are the Quesinberry's who are great friends from Johnson City, TN. We met them at the congregation we worshiped at when Shannon was in school. They are dear to us, and I was so thankful I got to see them and that Brandon and I had the opportunity to co-direct High Rock together.



The Quesinberry family



Maria, John, Elena, and Anna Kallenbach, and me at the theater

Pictured on the left are the Kallenbachs. I had the pleasure of meeting them when we all went to Israel on the Bible Passages June 2022 tour. They are a wonderful family and were gracious enough to let me stay with them during my time in Missouri. While there we went to see a theater production of Esther that I can't put into words how great it was.

While Shannon could not join me for the whole summer, I was able to come back in time to celebrate her birthday! We had a small gathering of close friends for a grill out. I couldn't ask for a more supportive and loving wife to be by my side and walk this journey with me.



Shannon

The remainder of my summer will be spent assisting in John and Carla Moore's work at Bible Passages (<https://www.biblepassages.net/>). I will continue to update their website and work on more online content that we should be publishing by late this year.

If you would like to receive my newsletter electronically, sign up through my website at <https://www.brianketchem.me>