

BRIAN AND SHANNON NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2023

I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. (Philippians 1:3-5)

MINISTRY UPDATES

This month has not brought many major updates to our ministry. We are in the throes of the semester. Most of our time in November was spent studying and trying to fulfill our obligations week to week. We had an excellent thanksgiving feast hosted by the Dean of Students, Wayne Jones, for all of the students that were staying in town. The only other item of note is our work at Columbine and Bible Passages continues to go well. At Columbine I wrapped up our study in Galatians and gave a recap of our trip. I also had the opportunity to preach one Sunday night at Bear Valley which is an opportunity I always look forward to.



Thanksgiving Dinner at Wayne and Shana Kaye Jones's

One Major Announcement from Bible Passages

The March Bear Valley Bible Institute Bible Passages trip has had an itinerary change. Instead of going to Israel, we are excited to offer a Seven Churches of Asia trip, including Istanbul and Greece for the same price. There are a few spots available, so if this interests you, please get with me or John and Carla ASAP so we can get you signed up to travel with us!



The Acropolis in Athens from atop Mars' Hill

A TIME FOR REFLECTION AND THANKS

As we come to the close of another year, we are amid another holiday season. Typically, this is a time of thankfulness. God calls us to be people who are thankful. It is his will that we constantly attribute to him the good things that happen in our lives. In that spirit, Shannon and I wanted to express our thankfulness and appreciation for all that you do for us.

First, you are a manifestation of God's blessings in our lives. It is interesting how God has chosen to work through people to manifest blessings. He is certainly powerful enough to find other ways to do it, but primarily He says, "my blessings will come to you at the hands of others." What that means, is that, in a way, people play a part in how much God's blessings will extend. Your decision to help us is part of a long tradition of extending God's blessings, and for that we are grateful.

Second, it is not only your monetary support that sustains us, but your prayers, love, encouragement, and correspondence as well. It is because of all these things that we can keep going when we face difficulties. It means more than you know, whether as an individual or as a congregation you would take even a passing interest in our ministry, let alone a vested one.

Although we are constantly grateful for our supporters, especially at this time of the year, we are truly thankful for each and every one of you. Our thankfulness cannot be understated. It is appropriate this month that we spend time praising and thanking God for you and letting you know our level of gratitude. From the bottom of our hearts we thank you and we wish you a wonderful holiday season.