

BRIAN AND SHANNON NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY/MARCH 2024

Anxiety in a man's heart weighs him down, but a good word makes him glad. (Proverbs 12:25)

Time is going too fast! Shannon and I have been busy in February and March. The January quarter is already over, and the last quarter of the school year has begun. The January quarter was a good one for us and marks one more step towards graduation. Speaking of graduation, I am on track to finish my bachelor's degree in December of 2024 and my master's in May of 2025. Time is getting away from us, but we are excited for what God has in store for us as we enter what feels like the home stretch! This is a bigger than normal update but check the end for big news about our future plans!!

SCHOOL UPDATES

February started off with research week. Even with only three weeks worth of classes, we stayed very busy, and the month flew by. Shannon's Wednesday night ladies' class got together for a Valentine's Day class complete with snacks, chocolate, fellowship, and studying God's word. One evening a few of us students went bowling with prospective students from Oklahoma City, OK. We also attended the marriage seminar John and Carla offered for the students.

March was not much quieter. We spent most of our time working for John and Carla and I was able to get 6 more credits completed towards his master's degree. The quarter wrapped up and then we enjoyed a short break



Marriage Seminar with students and staff

before gearing up for another one. The quarter started with another master's class, Revelation Blitz week with Dan Owen.

MINISTRY UPDATES



I continued preaching at Columbine in February and March. We were in Joshua where we have been since December. I am anticipating that the study in Joshua will wrap up the first week of April. We have partnered in this work with Alex and Savannah Rossen who now preach on the other two Sundays that I do not. In addition to Columbine, I also covered Bible class at Bear Valley where we covered Titus 2:1-6. I continue to work with John and Carla on their Bible Passages ventures. February was spent on a lot of preparation for the 7 Churches of Asia trip in March. In March we supported John and Carla on their trip and worked on future plans for Bible Passages.

One Sunday afternoon, Shannon and I got to visit the ranch of one of our Bear Valley members for a lovely lunch with great Christian people. Another time, I had the opportunity to meet Gerard. He is one of our community members who lives down the street from the church building. He is mostly blind from a previous injury and has had many trials in life. He was willing to attend church with me one Sunday evening, and we are hoping to set him up with a Bible study in the future.



Shannon also has a coworker named Oscar who is Spanish speaking that she's been getting to know. We are hoping to have a mutually beneficial relationship where he teaches us Spanish, and we teach him English in addition to the Bible.

PERSONAL NOTES

Winter and Spring in the Rockies brings a lot of snow. We have had separate storms of 8, 20, and 6 inches at our house. Thankfully we have mostly been able to use this time to stay indoors and enjoy a few quiet days of rest to catch up on homework. During research week we got together with John and Carla Moore for a chilly outdoor hike in Idaho Springs. What we love about Colorado is how much beauty is all around us, reminding us of God's great design and power.



ONE BIG UPDATE!

As we have been discussing in our newsletter for quite some time, we have been working with John and Carla on their ministry, Bible Passages. It has been our plan for a long time to continue working with them after school. As graduation finally comes into view (8 months away for my bachelors?!?), we have been able to put pen to paper with John and Carla. I am overjoyed to share this blurb from John and Carla's newsletter this month:

Bible Passages is thrilled to announce that Brian Ketchem will be joining the Bible Passages team in an official paid position, beginning January 1st. His title will be Content and Technology Specialist, and he will work in the areas of Technology, Content Creation, and Development. Brian grew up attending the Cold Harbor Road Church of Christ in Mechanicsville, Virginia and then attended Virginia Tech where he received his B.A. in Geography. He also holds an M.S. in Geography from the University of Wisconsin Madison. Currently he is enrolled at Bear Valley where he is working on a Bachelor of Theology B.Th (December 2024 expected) and a Master of Biblical Studies M.B.S (May 2025 expected).

Brian has already completed many hours of volunteer work in assisting with technology issues, website details, filming, photographs, and content related materials. He and his wife Shannon are dear friends and dedicated members of the body of Christ. Shannon is a licensed Pharmacist and she and Brian have a

deep and abiding love for the Lord, and for people. We are excited to welcome them to our team and prayerfully ask that you might help us in supporting Brian as we all work together to edify the church and guide people to Jesus.

Shannon and I could not be more excited for this opportunity! God has been so good to us, and we are excited to serve God in this ministry.