



# BIBLE Passages *Journal*

## Dear Supporters and Friends,

Where in Jerusalem is the tomb where they laid my Lord? That question remains largely unanswered, but the burial site of Jesus has some very likely candidates. Some say it is located at the Church of the Holy Sepulcher within the old city walls, while others say it has been located at a place called the Garden Tomb near the present day Israeli Bus Station in East Jerusalem. Our next Bible Land Passage documentary, set to be released this summer, will explore this issue and discuss the importance of the resurrection of Jesus. Several weeks during the month of April were spent on this project. Editing scripts, arranging interviews, and making trips to World Video Bible School to discuss film editing, illustrations, and graphics; all a part of the varied process that it takes to produce a film that we are praying will reach countless souls.



Men's April Bible study, with John's father, Grady, in the foreground

Another major part of the Bible Lands documentary project involves preparing for and executing the filming of various reenactments. After a lot of preparation and a number of willing subjects who played the various roles of Jesus, Joseph of Arimathea, Nicodemus, Pilate, and the Roman soldier, we eventually captured what I think are some compelling segments to be used in both current and future films.

During the filming of the re-enacted crucifixion and His preparation for burial, one could not help but think about the brutality of the cross, the love of Jesus, and the solemnity of what we were doing in trying to portray this historic and salvific event. We look forward to seeing the finished product and pray that many will come to better understand the significance of the resurrection, as well as to understand that this historic event happened in a real place, and in a real time in history. Wherever the location, the fact that Jesus conquered death and rose from the grave is of far greater importance, and is one of the main objectives of the film.

The month of April likewise kept us busy with many other opportunities to serve. At the beginning of the month, Carla and I found ourselves in Memphis, Tennessee where we spoke at the Memphis School of Preaching Lectureship. My topic was Purity and the Presence of God. My chapter for the lectureship book was actually written many months before, so I had to spend a lot of time in study and preparation for the actual lecture. It was an

### Upcoming schedule:

May 5-8: Focal Point  
Preacher's Workshop

May 11-25: Digging Deep/  
BLPT Studies Tour

May 25-June 1 Shiloh  
Archaeological Dig (John)

June 15-16 Marriage  
Seminar in Pearland, TX

July 2-21: Research and  
filming in Israel

honor being back at the Forest Hill congregation where the lectures were taking place. We were delighted to see old friends and make new acquaintances.

At the end of the month I conducted a series of gospel meetings in Willette, Tennessee on the topic of "Getting Close to God." The meeting was well attended with over 250 in attendance each night. Willette is a vibrant and dedicated congregation involved in supporting numerous evangelistic works throughout the brotherhood. They are especially known for their support of a large work in Andrea Padresh, India under the direction of Jack Honeycutt who works and worships with the Willette congregation. They also support Rob Whitacre, who is now working with House to House and conducting evangelism seminars all over the country. Tim McHenry is the new preacher at Willette and he and his wife Connie, in whose home I stayed several nights, is doing a wonderful job in carrying on the work of a very evangelistic congregation.



April was also filled with many hours of writing a new script for a special edition of Bible Land Passages which will focus on the biblical site of Shiloh and the stories of Hannah and the famed tabernacle of the Jews. I will have much more to say about this project in our May report after returning from a filming expedition and studies program in Israel. Also, during April I spent time working on Bible Land Passages 13 called "Caesarea: Rome's Capitol in Israel" and also enjoyed getting to spend some time with our parents, children, and grandchildren. We want to again express our deepest appreciation for your love and support. Without you these works would not be possible. There is so much more to report, but perhaps this will give you some idea of the things God has allowed us to do. God bless you always, and thanks again for your support. Your support has been indispensable to our work. In Him, *John W. Moore*



We rejoice in the victory gained by our aunt Mary Crumley (my father's sister). Mary was a dedicated Christian, mother, and wife. She was a Bible class teacher, worker in the Kingdom, and deeply loved the Lord. She and Marvin have been supporters of Bible Land Passages and we will always be indebted to the Crumley family for their love and support over the years. She will be greatly missed. She passed from this life on April 3. I was privileged to conduct the funeral service along with my brother Tom. Please keep my uncle Marvin in your prayers.



Come with us next year as we study the Bible in Israel and Rome! Spots are filling for this March 14-28, 2020 trip. More information is here:

<https://www.biblepassages.net/2020>



L-R: Jay, Mark, Henry, Mat, and Tracy working on reenactments for BLP videos...Kelly Miller has built so many fabulous visual aids, including this cross...Willette church of Christ in Tennessee...with John Grubb at the MSOP Lectures...Wes and Teri Autrey with Phanat and Chakriya Ouch at our house, meeting about the Lord's work in Cambodia...working on this year's tour guidebook...Aubrie Deaver working on Henry's "scars"...John and Denny Petrillo enjoying the purple sportscar...Tim and Connie McHenry work with the Willette congregation where John held a meeting this month...with Athena Scherffius and Emily Cammack in Victoria, TX...loved having everyone all together again - Emmy was napping!

## Carla's Comments

I always look forward to April, a month that so vividly and colorfully demonstrates new life and new growth; with new and fresh opportunities abounding. April in Texas usually brings a few thunderstorms, too, that sometimes make me a little afraid— but even those show God's power and might, and then His sun always shines on the other side. There are so many things in nature that reinforce what God wants us to understand about His ways. One of those things I always see as we drive through Bastrop, Texas when we are en route to either Micah's or Jordan's home. In 2011, dry conditions and high winds in Bastrop caused a wildfire that leveled 32,000 acres, and when we drive through, I can't help noticing the charred, barren treetops extending high above the new growth. Eight years later, the Bastrop pines are growing again and the forest floor is recycling what the fire destroyed. Some have even said that the fire "reset the clock" for the ecosystem, recycling nutrients and renewing soil chemistry. While the fire was devastating because of lives lost and homes that were leveled, I believe there will always be something good that we can find after something bad happens. And every time we drive through Bastrop, I think how God takes things that **we** think are destroyed or broken, and **He** uses them to create new life. He is using what was burned in the wildfire to recreate the forest. Seeds break open to grow life-sustaining plants. Grain is broken for bread. And most of all, when our hearts are penitent after sin, He can use our broken hearts to give us new life. Awareness of the terrible devastation that sin has caused in our lives helps us to reset our aim and renew our devotion to God. Our broken spirit is precious; a sacrifice to Him, "a broken and contrite heart, O God, You will not despise," (Psalm 51:17). I love this lyric to the song, *Just As I Am*: "Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind, sight, riches, healing of the mind...yea, all I need, in Thee to find...O Lamb of God, I come!" I'm thankful for the reminders in nature of God's gracious ability to renew us.



Hike at Pedernales Falls State

We began April in Oklahoma, then traveled to the MSOP lectures. The car rental company in Memphis upgraded us to a very sporty Dodge Challenger, and it was Barney-the-dinosaur-purple (see photo below)! All of our kids came home the following weekend and we enjoyed having everyone together. In mid-April we drove to see some of our supporters and give a report on our work - to the Midtown congregation in Victoria and then to the Weber Road congregation in Corpus Christi. We were able to visit with many on that quick trip. We were also blessed to have dear friends Wes and Teri Autrey come to visit - Wes coordinates Bear Valley's school in Cambodia, and they came to meet with Phanat Ouch and his wife, Chakriya, who live in Cambodia, but were in Austin visiting his parents.

I spent a good amount of time this month putting this year's Passage Guidebook together for the upcoming Israel tour (we leave on Saturday, May 11). I use Apple's program called "Pages" which is much easier than any other word processing document, but it is time consuming. We put our daily schedule in, along with lots of photos, maps, information about the daily sites we visit, some of the things I've written about different locations, charts, etc...and we hope it will be very helpful for the people who come along with us.



Not my picture, but this is some of the new growth in the Bastrop forest.

We'd ask you to remember our family in your prayers. John's parents are facing some pretty daunting health challenges, and there are some decisions in Mom's future ahead. Courtney graduates from college next week and soon after begins a new job as a food safety technician with her dream employer, HEB. If you're from Texas, you know who they are - and we are so extremely proud of and thankful for her beautiful heart! And as always - we thank you from the bottom of our hearts for the support you provide in so many different ways: prayers, love, hugs, financial support, recommendations, and friendship. We thank God for your love! *Carla*