

Words from the Woodward's

June, 2022

"For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."(Romans 8:38,39).

Dear prayer partner,

Thank you so much for your friendship and support.

The Scripture quotation about **God's love** relates to this observation from an unknown devotional writer: "If we get a wrong idea about the inward working of the Cross we shall lose our own enjoyment of God's love and fail to manifest that love to others. We have no doubt that, for the sinner, the Cross is the outstanding expression of God's love [Rom. 5:8], but when we realize that it brings us, as believers, into a very personal experience of being crucified together with Christ, we are apt to lose sight of the love of God...[But] The Cross will always bring us back to the love of God in ever-increasing fulness [Eph. 3:18-20]." Amen.

I had special opportunities during the recent trip to **New Jersey** to share the fuller message of the Cross and celebrate God's transformative grace and love. On the morning of June 3rd I was at The Colony of Mercy at America's Keswick. (We have had their chaplains come to Tennessee for training and I have been there a few times over the years.) This recovery ministry was started by Cherri Freeman's great grandfather. She lives nearby and we had a good catch-up visit.

The "**hybrid**" **Workshop** (online and in-person teaching) worked out wonderfully. About 18 people from Bayside Chapel enrolled in the online content and met on six Monday nights with pastors Joe Faraldi and Ken Carlson. The concluding in-person event was Friday night and Saturday, June 3,4. Two other couples from out of state attended and the Lord gave us special fellowship and interaction. I anticipate using this hybrid model again with other like-minded churches.

Regarding **new publications**, my book *Blessed Reassurance* has just been published in Spanish--*Bendita Seguridad*. I am sending sample copies to the translator and others to review this paperback edition. And John Best's book, *The Cross of Christ* has now been published in paperback.

On June 7th I spent the day with Steve (from Chattanooga) and Pradeep (visiting from **Nepal**). They had walked through the online Workshop content together and then we had this day of fellowship and additional teaching at GFI.

Thank you again for your prayers and financial support. May our experience of the Cross unveil new dimensions of God's enablement, grace and love.

Yours in Christ,
John



June 3,4 Workshop with the couples from Pennsylvania and Rhode Island

Hi John,
I listened to your presentation yesterday on *Determining a Counseling Model*. That was so helpful! I wanted to tell you how much I appreciate the thoughtful approach you have to teaching, whether in writing or in oral communication... I know it takes discipline and a constant commitment to excellence to be effective...Thank you for sharing. I know from experience that it comes out of lessons learned in some dark valleys, but we benefit from your suffering and obedience...Thanks for your acceptance and guidance. Blessings to you and your family.

- J.S. (CO)

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