

Words from the Woodwards

November, 2023

“Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place.” 2 Corinthians 2:14

Dear ministry partner,

Thank you so much for your prayers and financial support. August-November this year has been one of my busiest seasons. It included our GFI workshop, South Africa, Kenya, Cameroon, Nashville, TN, Lakeland, FL, St. Louis, MO, and another local workshop!

And last month, Linda and I had a trip-of-a-lifetime. As quoted in this month's GFI letter, Linda and I had a 'bucket list' trip to **Bible lands** September 30th - October 15th. GFI friends, Rob, and Nancy Semco, booked the same trip and were wonderful travel companions. After flying to Italy, a cruise took us through many of the places Paul visited on his missionary journeys. We had visits and tours in Rome, Athens, ancient Ephesus, Cyprus, Crete, and more. It was amazing to see the Vatican and Michelangelo's famous artwork in the Sistine Chapel. Walking onto the Acropolis in Athens and the Parthenon, we envisioned Paul testifying to the philosophers on nearby Mars Hill (Acts 17). Another highlight was a personal tour through the ruins of ancient Ephesus where John, Paul, and Timothy ministered (Acts 19). There we also saw the remains of the infamous Temple of Artemis (Diana). Our itinerary included two days in Israel which included Galilee and Jerusalem. But three days before our scheduled arrival the tragic war broke out! (We have never been to Israel, so we were very disappointed. On the other hand, we give thanks for the Lord's providential protection and pray for peace in Israel and Gaza.) On this trip we learned so much, had opportunities to share the Gospel with guides, and were blessed with health and safety in travel. Praise the Lord!

We had a wonderful **workshop** here in Pigeon Forge November 6-9. Although our numbers were small (8 registered, plus 4 more volunteer participants), we had special fellowship. Everyone was very thankful and excited about their learning and equipping experience.

Linda and I wish you a meaningful and joyful Thanksgiving season.

Yours in Christ,

John



Workshop, November, 2023

“I have been so encouraged through the Glimpses of Grace podcast. As a former counselee of GFI I know the very real power and freedom that comes from understanding the truths that John and Mark discuss. The podcast is great for days where I am looking for a different form to soak in the word and specifically from a grace perspective that is in line with exchanged life teaching. You guys tackle the big questions and have had very inspiring guests on the show! I look forward to each and every podcast. Thank you for taking your own time out to serve your brothers and sisters in this way.” - Ontario



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