



This past term at SIBI has honestly been one of the most stretching and rewarding seasons I've experienced so far. Finishing Third Term means I've completed my first term of second-year courses, and this year just feels different. The expectations are higher. The workload is heavier. The discussions go deeper. There were moments I felt stretched thin, but through it all, I can see the Lord shaping me in ways I didn't even realize I needed.

When I first arrived at Sunset, I was simply eager to learn. I wanted knowledge and tools. Now I'm realizing it's about much more than information. I'm learning how to think carefully, shepherd people well, and carry responsibility with humility. These courses have pushed me beyond knowing what the Bible says—they've challenged me to handle it carefully, communicate it clearly, and live it faithfully.

I'm especially thankful for how the earlier terms prepared me for this season. The workload hasn't gotten smaller, but it feels far more manageable. Developing a solid organizational system has helped me stay steady instead of overwhelmed. I'm learning to pace myself, stay disciplined, and trust the process. I'm grateful for this kind of growth—even when it's uncomfortable—because I can see how the Lord is using it to prepare me for what's ahead.

## Life outside Class

Some of the sweetest moments this term happened outside the classroom walls.

I had the privilege of organizing and leading a trip with fellow students to Palo Duro Canyon. Hiking, laughing, and spending time in God's creation strengthened our friendships in ways that classroom discussions alone cannot. There's something about shared experiences that builds brotherhood quickly.

We also had the opportunity to sing Christmas carols at local nursing homes. Watching residents light up as we sang familiar hymns was a simple but powerful reminder that ministry is often found in small, faithful acts of encouragement.

Sunset continues to feel like family. The fellowship here is real. We study hard, challenge one another, worship together, and support one another when things get heavy. I am grateful every day for the people God has placed around me in this season.



# Brief lessons from class Continued

## Book of Romans

Romans humbled me. Studying justification by faith in detail made grace feel fresh again. Memorizing passages like Romans 1:16–17 and reflecting on Paul’s argument reminded me that the gospel is not something we “move past”—it’s something we grow deeper into. I’ve walked away more grateful for the righteousness of Christ and more aware of how desperately the world needs that message.



## Daniel & Ezekiel

This course deepened my understanding of God’s sovereignty over nations and history. Reading about empires rising and falling while God’s purposes stand firm was incredibly grounding. It reminded me that no matter how uncertain our world feels, the Lord is never surprised, never shaken, and never dethroned.

## Preaching from the Old Testament

Preaching from narrative, prophetic, poetic, and wisdom literature reminded me how rich and alive the Old Testament truly is. I’ve learned that it’s not just background for the New Testament—it’s a living testimony of God’s faithfulness and sovereignty. One takeaway for me has been learning to slow down and let the text speak, rather than rushing to conclusions. The Old Testament magnifies God in powerful ways when handled carefully.

## Christian History & Doctrine

Studying church history gave me a greater appreciation for the faithfulness of believers who stood firm through persecution, division, and cultural change. It made me grateful for the heritage of faith we’ve inherited—and reminded me that we are simply stewards of something much bigger than ourselves.

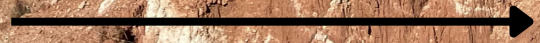
## Introduction to Christian Counseling

This class was especially practical. It reminded me that ministry is not only about preaching sermons but also about sitting with people in their pain. We discussed marriage dynamics, emotional struggles, conflict resolution, and pastoral limitations. One of my biggest takeaways has been the importance of compassion—listening well before speaking quickly.

## Advanced Homiletics John Knox

This class stretched my long-term vision for preaching. Developing a “Sermons for a Year” plan forced me to think beyond a single Sunday and instead consider the spiritual direction of an entire congregation over time. I realized that preaching isn’t just about delivering messages—it’s about shepherding people intentionally through God’s Word. It challenged me to ask, “If I had one year with a church, what would they need most?”

*But wait there's more*



## Upcoming Ministry Opportunities

Mexico City Campaign – March 7–14, 2026

I was originally scheduled to travel with a team to Mexico City for Sunset’s campaign week this spring. Unfortunately, I am sad to share that the trip has been canceled and will be rescheduled for a later date in the fall.

While this was disappointing news, we trust that the Lord’s timing is always better than our own. Please continue to keep this future opportunity in your prayers as plans are made for the rescheduled campaign.

## Looking Towards the Summer.

As this term concludes, conversations about summer plans are beginning. There are opportunities being discussed, and I would greatly appreciate your prayers as decisions are made.

Please pray for wisdom, clarity, and open doors where the Lord would have me serve. I want to follow where He leads—not just where opportunities appear.



PLEASE REACH OUT WITH ANY QUESTIONS

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## Closing Reflections

This term has reminded me that growth rarely happens in comfort. There have been long nights of studying, moments of self-evaluation, and times where I’ve had to admit weaknesses. But through it all, the Lord has been faithful.

I am deeply grateful for your prayers, encouragement, and financial support. You truly are part of this journey. Every sermon prepared, every class completed, every opportunity to serve—it all happens because of your partnership. Thank you for walking with me through this season alongside me.



ONCE AGAIN, I WANT TO THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT, PRAYERS, AND ENCOURAGEMENT. I COULDN’T DO THIS WITHOUT YOU, AND I’M SO GRATEFUL FOR THE ROLE YOU PLAY IN MY LIFE AND EDUCATION. AS I CONTINUE THIS JOURNEY, I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING HOW GOD WILL USE THESE LESSONS AND EXPERIENCES TO EQUIP ME FOR MINISTRY AND SERVICE.

JOYFULLY HIS,

*KEVIN RAPP*

OPTIONS TO GIVE



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