

Daniel and Bethanie Blake Update



We are extremely proud to say that we have both completed and passed the first term at SIBI. The courses we took this term were:

- Luke
- Old Testament History 1 (Genesis-Deuteronomy)
- Spiritual Disciplines
- Introduction to Ministry (Daniel)
- Gracious Hospitality (Bethanie)
- Ministering Out of Your Marriage (Short course)

What We Have Learned

Throughout our studies in Luke, we took a closer look at the prophecy of Jesus' ministry in Isaiah 61:1-2 and how Jesus had fulfilled that prophecy with the works that He did through ministering to the outcasts. We also studied the meaning of Discipleship, researching the qualities of what a disciple is and what it means today for us as we continue to carry out Jesus' ministry.

Our studies in Old Testament History took us on a journey from Creation to the entry of the promised land. This course helped us to identify key dates and events that happened during this time. We covered the fall of man, the exodus, the giving of the law, the covenants and how God was able to simultaneously save the righteous and judge the wicked through some of these events.

Our studies in Spiritual Disciplines allowed us to explore practices that can strengthen our emotional and spiritual health. Some of these disciplines included fasting, journaling, extended prayer, silence, sabbath day, meditation, simplicity, fellowship, confession and worship, some of which we have already incorporated into our lives. In her ladies' class, Bethanie has been learning and studying about hospitality in the bible and how God expects us to treat one another and strangers. She has been learning some new recipes in the kitchen and preparation methods to help prepare for guests in the home.

In His men's class, Daniel has been learning about MLA writing style and English Grammar to communicate effectively in ministry. He has also been learning the Greek alphabet and how to transliterate Greek. We were also blessed to be able to attend the short course on marriage. We were taught how to use the prepare and enrich marriage tool to help other engaged and married couples. We also received teaching from Trey and Lea Morgan on how we can bless and strengthen our marriages to prepare us for ministry.

What we have been doing

We placed membership at Greenlawn Church of Christ who are supporters of our hometown congregation in the UK. We attend Wednesday night bible classes here and have joined a Sunday morning bible group called "Married and serving Him". We volunteer at the food and clothing bank at Greenlawn every other Saturday to serve the local community. We also had the privilege to visit Prestoncrest Church of Christ in Dallas, we met their full-time preacher Gordon Dabbs whose YouTube videos had a big influence on Daniels baptism decision. We have also been engaged in fellowship with our fellow classmates through singing and study nights, as well as fellowship with the church family. We would again like to thank all our supporters who have made our studies at SIBI possible.