



Pictured Above: A small collective of students and staff during chapel on a Friday morning! (:

Turkeys & Reindeers Greetings!

----- **STEVEN JAEGER**

If you haven't noticed by now, I like to come up with fun, one-of-a-kind headlines for my newsletters! Truth be told, I don't often know what to write as a headline. When that happens it gives me the opportunity to use my imagination again which has always been one of the most exciting parts of my life. I consider the ability to be creative a blessing and what's amazing about that is we all have the capability to be creative! Sometimes we forget that. All that is required is to not be afraid to practice thinking differently in a way that excites you. Sometimes doing adult things for so long makes us forget just how much fun we can have in life with the little things. Give your creativity a try! You never know what fun, or silly or amazing thing might come from it! While the turkeys have made their way through town and found their way into our ovens...

...now we're just waiting for the reindeer to come from around the corner. Hopefully this year they won't run over grandma on their way here! :D All bad jokes aside, I hope the end of year holiday season has been good for you so far. I know we don't always face the same circumstances and sometimes the holidays can be difficult to get through. But it always proves to be a heartwarming moment when the goodness of God shows itself in small ways that remind us of the comfort we have with Him in our lives. I am thankful to our God that I get to have and share this part of my life with you. And I appreciate your willingness to be here to support me along the way. The more I think about the new and greater ways I will be able to serve God not only in my personal life but also as an upcoming minister, the more excited and humbled I become by the prospect of that blessing. In just a few short months, Lord willing, graduation will be here, and I'll be on my way to labor for His Kingdom! (:



December '23 Class Update

----- S. JAEGER

M/W/F Classes: Judah Alone, Pre-captivity (Dave Chamberlin), 2 Corinthians (Dan R. Owen), Church Growth (Donnie Bates).

T/R Classes: How We Got the Bible (Dan R. Owen), Christian Apologetics (Dave Miller, Kyle Butt, & Eric Lyon from Apologetics Press).

This quarter of classes has been more than I was prepared for, and it couldn't be better! Q2 of each year is always challenging because it is the shortest amount of time we have in class, compared to each of the other quarters, which makes the amount of class assignments we have feel like they are stacked as high as the mountains around us! Not really, but you get the point. How We Got the Bible has been a real treat. Getting to learn more about the history and validity of God's Word, especially amid lingering and newly concocted assertions against it, has proven to be worth more than I know how to express. One of the book recommendations that comes from this class specifically about our modern-day Bibles is written by a man named Jack P. Lewis. "The English Bible from the KJV to the NIV." I'm excited to find a copy for myself and it may...

...just be something you find helpful as well! And something else from this class that has been very helpful, and something I've been trying to figure out for myself, is how to read the story of God's creation in a chronological order (which is something our modern, western minds are accustomed to when processing information). Consider reading the Bible with this approach: Genesis, Exodus, Numbers, Joshua, Judges, Samuel, Kings, Ezra, Nehemiah, Chronicles, Luke, and Acts. Once you've finished reading those books in that order, you can then fill in the rest of God's story with the other divinely inspired writings. This should help us to better understand things from the Ancient Eastern perspective which is very important for us to be aware of and consider in light of our own faith.

Related to this new perspective is another exciting discovery about the God of all creation found in Jeremiah 12:14-17. This passage shows that the God of the Bible has always unbiasedly been righteous and compassionate to all because He wants EVERYONE to be with Him!