

EXPLORE - CONNECT - APPLY

JANUARY 2025

JENNY & JOHN KARRAKER

What sort of things spur you to action? Conversations with neighbors on the state of the world? News reports of disasters in faraway places? Podcasts that discuss cultural trends? Sermons on Sunday?

Coming off our sabbatical we've jumped right into ministry. This month John is acting as an instructor or coach, as we call it, for 8 of our Cru campus field workers. The class he teaches is a kind of continuing education and qualifies for graduate seminary credit. These students are gaining knowledge and skills in how to better study and teach God's Word. They are learning how to explore a passage of Scripture, connect with it theologically and then apply it to daily life.

One of the important features of our approach is to consider the author's formative intent. We're asking the question: How did the author intend his readers to be formed or changed by what they read? The application then runs along the lines of things to know/believe, see, feel, and do. We also



So we will be looking to replace a car. Our 2014 was really great - comfortable, good gas mileage and in good repair. Alas, the Lord knows what we need even before we ask Him.

want to consider both the individual and corporate responses to our text. Not only do we want to personally live in alignment with God's will and purposes but also want our churches and society to reflect God's goodness and blessing.

And it is such a privilege to speak into the lives of these very bright, earnest, and gifted field workers. Most of them reach out directly to college students. One is part of Family Life and helps families live out the gospel. Another works with athletes and another with the military. At the end of our almost 4 weeks together, these Cru staff workers will preach a message based on their studies. We, as instructors, have the added benefit of concentrated time in God's Word and the sharpening of our skills.

Thank you for standing with us in the great task of taking the message of God's love and forgiveness to campuses here in the US and around the world!

Jenny & John



The highlight of our New Years holiday was that Joanna, our daughter #2 came from California for a visit with us along with her neices and nephews.



We visited, Julia, our daughter #4 in NYC over Christmas.

Prayer & Praises:

- On the last Sunday of 2024, an inattentive driver plowed into our car. Fortunately, no one was hurt, just a little shaken. But the car was a total loss so now we're down one car. Thankfully, our insurance coverage will provide a downpayment on a replacement. Please join us in thanking God for His mercy that no one was hurt and that these things are fixable.
- John finds that his left shoulder is going to need another surgery. He noticed that he hadn't been able to lift his left arm since the middle of December so went to the doctor. It was determined that he now needs a shoulder replacement. That surgery is scheduled for February 17, with a four-week recovery and at least six months of rehab.



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