



Ken and Kathryn at the pastors' conference in Kenya

## Board Meeting Irving, TX August 6-7

**W**e set the budget for

fiscal 2022, which covers July 2021 through June 2022. It is a slight increase over the past fiscal year. The board was very pleased with the record giving in the past year.

Major news: we are planning to start an OT commentary. Half of the commentary will be written by Ken, Shawn, and Bob. Other committed contributors include Lucas Kitchen, David Renfro, Philippe Sterling, and Steve Thurman. Our aim is to complete one-fifth



of the commentary by August 2022 and complete the entire commentary by August 2027, if the Lord tarries. So far Bob has completed commentary on Genesis 1-3, Lucas has written the introduction to and commentary on the first chapter of Esther, and David Renfro, who has already written a full-length commentary on Exodus, has cut his commentary on Exodus 1 down to the 800-word limit that we've set per chapter.

We also discussed over a dozen different areas in which there is a lot of confusion in Evangelicalism today. Bob was tasked to write blogs on some of these points. They include issues like the nature of saving faith, whether Roman Catholics are born again, whether the NT epistles were written to a mixed audience of believers and unbelievers, and whether Lordship Salvation is a saving message.

We would appreciate your prayers for these important assignments.





Partners and BBQ



More partners and BBQ

## Lunch with 3 Pastors from Coppell Bible Fellowship August 3

Shawn and Bob met with Senior Pastor Barkef Osigian, Associate Pastor Steve Elkins, and Associate Pastor of Worship Brent Lamb.

We had a great time discussing topics related to evangelism and discipleship.



## Partner's Appreciation Dinner Plano, TX August 17

About 30 GES partners, some from as far away as Oklahoma, enjoyed a great meal of barbecue and time of fellowship. Bob shared about some of our new projects (the OT commentary, filming 4 new 5-10 minute videos each month, and Ken, Shawn, and Bob completing the book *Doctrine for Disciples* by next year's conference).

## Trip to Kenya

The main purpose of the trip was to do a conference on the Gospel of John for pastors. There were around 60 pastors in attendance, after a few dropped out. There were a few stragglers in attendance as well, so I think on average, there were around 70 in attendance for each of the five days. I (Ken) taught for 7 hours each day.

As you might guess, the gospel is not clearly presented in Kenya. When I told them things like you don't have to tithe to "go to heaven" or that you cannot

lose your salvation through sin or supposed demon possession, a few quit coming. However, the vast majority stayed for the whole conference. It is also safe to say that the large majority of those who did, accepted the teaching that all that is required for eternal life is faith in Christ for that gift, and you cannot lose it. At the end of the conference, one bishop got up and told the pastors under his control that they (including himself) had been preaching a false gospel and that they all needed to teach that eternal salvation is given to all who believed in Jesus as the Christ who gives it, and that it cannot be lost.

About 15 of the pastors wanted to meet after the conference for additional questions and answers.

I also got to speak at two different churches on the two Sundays I was there.

Kathryn was asked to go to two different churches and explain the ministry of GES on the same Sundays.

One of the highlights was the giving out of books. Kathryn and I were able to take around 200 books that taught Free Grace. Many contributed financially to this—and we sure appreciated it.

My general impression from this trip is this: There were many of the attendees in the churches and in the conference who heard the message of grace for the first time and believed. The literature we hand out is very valuable in that regard.

Kathryn and I really, really appreciate all the help all of you gave to make this trip possible.



Teaching theology and fashion