



Family Events:

July brought some delightful visits by family for Claire and me. While Hallie was at [Ridgecrest Conference](#) center serving as a counselor for the youth group from their church in VA, Donald and the three grandkids stayed with us from Monday through Saturday morning. On Monday evening Brian and the kids came over for a cook out, then Clay and Taylor spent the night and following day. We had five of our eleven grandchildren together, and our house was a bee hive of activity and fun. We managed to hit the river almost every night at the [Broad River Greenway Park](#) just



south of our home where the kids could play in the water. There was the traditional ride around the neighborhood in the red wagon.

This is a must activity when a bunch of grandkids get together at our house. We managed to visit the [city park](#)



in Shelby among other things. On Friday morning we drove to Ridgecrest (about 65 miles from our home) to pick up Hallie. After they left to go back home on Saturday, our house has been extremely quiet, since Clay and Taylor have been in Texas with their dad afterwards.

Carrie and her friend, Mark, have come down from Hendersonville a couple of times for supper. We have enjoyed their visits very much.

Mostly, July has meant that Claire has finished her MLS degree at East Carolina University. And with a 4.0 GPA! I'm extremely proud of her very special accomplishment.

Academics:

Wow! This summer has blown by much too quickly. And now it's almost time for school to begin again. I must admit to mixed emotions about this, just as most students feel. The older I become, however, the less mixed those feelings are about the beginning of another school year with classes starting on Aug. 25.

This fall should be a fairly [routine semester](#) for me with five courses to teach: [Religion 101](#) (OT Introduction, 2 sections); [Greek 101](#); [Greek 201](#); and [Greek 495J](#) (James). The class teaching schedule begins around 10:00 am each morning and concludes no later than 3:15 pm. Of course, before and after those time slots, lots of work in the office (at home mostly) will take place, making out tests etc. There should be slightly less than a hundred students total in the five classes. This is shaping up to be a very typical fall semester for me at GWU. At 62 plus years, the most important word for me in that sentence is "typical."

The survey of the Old Testament classes are a part of the core requirements for all students at GWU. Thus these two Tuesday-Thursday classes will be comprised mostly of freshmen students just out of high school and experiencing their first taste of university life. I have found an interesting blend of excitement/apprehension, interest/disinterest etc. among these students over the past six plus years of teaching at GWU. Faced with the impossible assignment of covering the entire Old Testament in one semester, these classes become one of the greater challenges to me in teaching.

The three M-W-F Greek classes represent three different stages of skill development with biblical Koine Greek. Greek 101 means this is the first encounter with Greek by these students. Sorting through the complexities of this very intricate ancient language creates both apprehension and curiosity. The gradual discovery of a New Testament that none of these students knew existed from their prior reading of just English translations is one of the more satisfying experiences for these first semester students. Greek 201 means third semester students who are advancing well in their skills with the Greek New Testament. Greek 495J means senior students taking an advanced Greek exegesis course on James in order to complete either a major or a minor in biblical Greek. These students are already beyond where most seminary students are at the end of their master's degree.



☺ *Claire's Musings:*

Aug, 2004

60-YEAR-OLD LIBRARIAN GRADUATES FINALLY

That one phrase says it all!!! I can't explain how happy and relieved I am now. There is a reason that the young (or at least before 60 years of age) should attend college. Between age and long hours at work, getting that degree in [Masters of Library Science](#) degree at East Carolina University became a huge challenge. The only reason I did this was because it was the only way that I could keep my librarian's job. I love to learn, so that part made it great. I learned so much, but I also forgot a lot. Taking three courses this past summer came fast and furious. The one that was the hardest had the word "technology" in it. That's not the best thing to admit, because my title is "Media Technology Coordinator", but I still say I am a librarian. I had one day off before starting school July 30, but that's not as bad as it sounds, because usually my classes and school overlapped by a few days. I almost feel like I'm on vacation, because I only have one school to deal with. This is fantastic!!!

We had Clay and Taylor quite a bit this summer while Brian was working on some major jobs that kept him out of town some. That was the enjoyable part of the sum-



mer. I didn't have the time to play much, but now that has changed. Taylor told me, "Mimi, you don't have fun." That will change now, thank goodness.

Donald and Brittany, Preston, and Trevor came to visit us for a few days and we had a lot of fun. I liked the fact that Clay and Taylor got to spend some time with the kids. It's good that all five of the kids get to see each other occasionally. Brittany, Preston, and Trevor were great and we had a photo session in the front yard taking pictures of a butterfly. We followed it around and got some great



shots. That was the most fun I had ever had taking pictures of a butterfly. Most of the time I was in my office working on my homework, Lorin was in his office working on his computer, and Donald was in the living room working on his computer. What a group. The three kids just played and had fun in spite of everything. Lorin had fun taking the kids to the river several times and to the carousel in Shelby. When Hallie was finished at her camp all of us went to one of our favorite places – the Japanese Restaurant. It was a wonderful family visit!

Carrie and her friend, Mark, came a couple of times, one of them to celebrate my graduation. It was especially great for Lorin and me, because we get the food ingredients and they cook the meal. Now, that is my kind of celebration. Mark is a very nice young man and I'm sure glad he likes to cook.



☺ *Lorin's Musings:*

In the continuing study of specific virtue lists in the letters of the New Testament, let's begin with a more detailed examination of [2 Cor. 6:6-8](#), which stands at the head of [the listing](#).

The list of virtues here include the following: "6 by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, 7 truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; 8 in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute." The underlying Greek text is also important to consider, since English translation of vice and virtue lists is notoriously difficult to do with precision: "6:6 ἐν ἀγνότητι, ἐν γνώσει, ἐν μακροθυμίᾳ, ἐν χρηστότητι, ἐν πνεύματι ἀγίῳ, ἐν ἀγάπῃ ἀνυποκρίτῳ, 6:7 ἐν λόγῳ ἀληθείας, ἐν δυνάμει θεοῦ· διὰ τῶν ὀπλῶν τῆς δικαιοσύνης τῶν δεξιῶν καὶ ἀριστερῶν, 6:8 διὰ δόξης καὶ ἀτιμίας, διὰ δυσφημίας καὶ εὐφημίας· ὡς πλάνοι καὶ ἀληθεῖς, "

In analyzing this passage, one must first note that these verses are part of a larger unit of scripture text: [6:1-13](#). Of particular importance are verses 3-10, which stand as a part of Paul's defense of his apostleship to the Corinthians: "3 We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, 4 but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, 5 beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; 6 by purity, knowledge,

patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, 7 truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; 8 in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; 9 as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; 10 as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything."

Thus, as Ralph P. Martin in the *Word Biblical Commentary* notes (vol. 40, p. 160), "In 6:3, he begins his apology, which is his defense of his ministry, by showing there is no reason for the Corinthians, at least with respect to his work, to have received the grace of God in vain. His ministry is faultless to the degree that Paul commends himself again to them."

The evident structure of these verses (vv. 4-10) is in the pattern of four stanzas: (1) vv. 4b-5; (2) vv. 6-7a; (3) vv. 7b-8a; (vv. 8b-10). Thus lined out the virtues appear as below: (2) "by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, 7 truthful speech, and the power of God" (3) "with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; 8 in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute."

Stanza 2 is marked by alliteration and chiasmus in the Greek text with four pairs of virtues listed. But stanza 3 reflects a shift in structure while maintaining a chiasmic thought pattern. In next month's discussion we will look more closely.