

November 15, 2014  
109 Grove Park Way  
Tuscumbia, AL 35674

Mr. Steve Ray  
3588 Plymouth Road, #277  
Ann Arbor, MI 48108

Dear Steve,

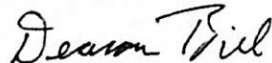
I was one of the four deacons with you and Janet on the May, 2013 Holy Land Pilgrimage. I tell everyone that the pilgrimage was life-changing...because it truly was. I know my feeling is shared by my two brother deacons (and their wives) from the Diocese of Birmingham in Alabama who traveled with my wife Debbie and me.

I thought you might appreciate hearing that immediately upon returning to the States, I purchased your book: *St. John's Gospel* and that I am now using it as my primary resource for a parish adult Scripture Study I lead on the Gospel of John. I haven't required participants to purchase the book, but they are well aware that much of what I share in the scripture study comes from your book.

Our format is that I devise questions for the group. Those questions then form the basis for our discussions. Quite often, your Historical, Textual, Theological and other Notes provide us with exactly the insight we need to better understand the Gospel. (I read these to the group directly from the book. I do not copy or otherwise distribute them). I am certain that the dozen or so parishioners who participate benefit greatly from all the hard work you must have put into the book. Thank you!

Debbie and I think of you and Janet often, especially when we see advertisements for other pilgrimages you propose to lead. This is especially so now as the situation in Israel seems to have deteriorated so much since our trip. We feel greatly blessed that our pilgrimage went so smoothly with virtually no hint of unrest. I pray that the situation in the Holy Land will always allow you to lead your pilgrimages, because I am certain that you are leading people to Christ and His Church through your ministry.

Peace and blessings to you and Janet,



Deacon Bill Clawson