



Shiloh Messenger

TRAVEL TIPS

November 2023

“For this world is not our permanent home...” Hebrews 13:14-16

The most traveled Holiday in North America is Thanksgiving. For many people, Thanksgiving brings nostalgia with a desire of being Home and embracing our roots. It is a time of re-gatherings with family, a time to reflect, nurture gratitude, count blessings, and the partaking of feasting with traditional foods.

As we reflect upon Thanksgiving, traveling, and the destination of being home, we think upon the Psalms of Ascent. These Psalms recorded in Psalms 120– 134 were sung as the Jewish People traveled to Jerusalem for the feast. These are Psalms of degrees that motivated these Sojourners to stay focused on their primary purpose. The primary purpose is to worship God. There was fortitude to embrace to get to their destination but also joy to pursue as they traveled. We encourage you to meditate on these Psalms of Ascent as you enjoy this season of Thanksgiving & also reflect on your own personal journey of HOMEWARD BOUND. (Hebrews 13:14)

We have also listed a few Travel Tips. These are vital for the wise Sojourner. We must be careful how we travel, and whom we travel with.

1. Stay Prepared. Location can change in a split second. Eternity is only a heartbeat away. Our life on this side is but a vapor. Sometimes we may think we have all the time in the world, but it can be gone in a blink of an eye. We cannot estimate how long it will take for us to get there. (James 4:14)
2. Do not get attached to things and store up treasures here. (Matthew 6:19-21) Your treasure is where your heart is at.
3. In the midst of chaos, tribulations, trials, & increasing evil, there is joy as we sojourn. The old hymn, “There’s within my heart a melody, Jesus whispers sweet and low, fear not I am with you, peace be still, in all life’s ebbs and flow. Jesus, Jesus, sweetest Name I know, Fills my every longing and keeps me singing as I go.” It is imperative to allow Him to fill us every day. (Isaiah 26:3)
4. Make the transit time count. We are Ambassadors for The Lord. Our ambition and passion should be to take many others with us. We love this testimony about

William Booth, The Founder of The Salvation Army. “Once while traveling, William Booth’s ride was stopped and detained. He took advantage of the opportunity and exhorted some idle factory workers. He said, “Some of you men never pray, you gave up praying a long time ago. But I say to you, won’t you pray for your children? That they may be different? Within minutes, seven hundred men knelt in silent prayer.” You never know whom you will impact for all of Eternity. (Daniel 12:3)

5. Some items are not meant for travel, and they will weigh you down. Be wise in what you carry with you. Throw out offenses. Forgive quickly with help from Holy Spirit. Do not keep score and do not compete with others. Clothe in humility, it makes for insured Grace. (James 4:6)
6. We should aim to gather. Family was ordained by God. Do not forsake the assembling of yourselves together especially as you see the day approaching. (Hebrews 10:25). We are to assemble as The Body of Christ to stir each other up in love and encourage one another in our faith as we travel Home. One of the Psalms of Ascents, Psalm 133 speaks of a blessing where there is unity.
7. Why are we longing for home anyway? He has placed Eternity in our hearts. We are longing for a city whose maker is God. We were made to worship. We are truly inwardly longing for our Father in Heaven. Psalm 63:1
8. Jesus paid your travel & entrance fee. Make your election sure. Cultivate your relationship with Your Travel Guide and study the instruction manual. (Psalm 119:105) “Your Word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.” We need light to navigate through this dark world. Our relationship is deepened as we meet with The Lord in prayer and study His Word. He is faithful to give us direction as we travel.

Our deepest longings will never be satisfied here. This world is not our home. The longings we feel are for something far greater than this present earth can satisfy.

Shiloh Ministries

is one of the Lord's many Ministry tools to reconcile men for restoration. We are blessed to be used of Him to preach the unsearchable riches that are in Christ Jesus (Eph. 3:8).

Every day we hear wonderful testimonies of our Graduates pursuing their calling as a godly husband, father, missionary, staff member at local churches, and a minister of reconciliation in the workplace.

The Lord's Ministry at Shiloh has always been free of charge for the man who desires freedom from his addictions. Because of this, we simply trust the Holy Spirit to lead people to give. We are grateful to those who express their gratitude to God by co-laboring with us in discipleship.

The expenditures are huge to manage a campus that houses over 30 students, staff & interns. **We ask you to prayerfully consider supporting Shiloh Ministries financially each month, as it is good ground.**

We invite you to **visit our website and read our testimony section!** It bears witness of the fruit in the lives of our graduates for the glory of God.

Thank you for giving to The Lord's Ministry at Shiloh!

Shiloh Ministries is recognized by the IRS as a 501C3 charitable organization.

All financial gifts are tax deductible at the end of the year.

My name is Mike Isham.

I am the Founder and Senior Pastor of Voice in the Wilderness Ministries.

I want to thank God first for all He has done and is doing in my life. I also thank Shiloh Ministries for the wonderful part they have had in my life. I was born in Lockport, New York, a suburb of

Buffalo. My childhood was filled with personal challenges. I turned to alcohol and drugs to escape the pain, but that only made it worse. I believed that a change would help me. I moved to Houston, Texas, in 1980 and was in the automobile business until 2020.

I met my beautiful wife, Vickie, in August 1984, and we were married on August 2nd, 1985. We have two wonderful sons, Kristopher and Justin. My wife and I were saved by the Lord on February 14th, 1987 while we were living in Lufkin, Texas. We went into ministry in the year 2000. I had the privilege of teaching at Shiloh Ministries from 2000 to 2021. We were Senior Associate Pastors and then became the Senior Pastors until 2019 at our church. Then I found my true calling.

In February 2020, the Lord visited me in a vision and stated that He was establishing a Ministry to reach the lost all over the world. He named it Voice in the Wilderness Ministries and told me to prepare my heart for radical lifestyle changes because there was a storm coming and to be ready. We began our preparations as directed by Him. One month later, in March of 2020, the most devastating pandemic suddenly thrust itself upon the world, and our true work began.

On June 20th, 2020, Voice in the Wilderness Ministries broadcast its first message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ globally. We want to thank God our Father, the Lord Jesus Christ, and the Spirit of God for allowing us to be a part of His wonderful work of redemption on the earth. We also want to thank Pastor Rocky and Debbie Fondren for their friendship and trust. May God continue to bless and use Shiloh Ministries to touch and change lives all over the world.



We love you and are thankful for your love and financial support of The Lord's Ministry at Shiloh. Blessings multiplied back to you!!

*Rocky & Debbie Fondren
Founders & Senior Leaders*

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