

# John & Debbie Martin

## MISSIONARIES to the US MILITARY



But God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us - Romans 5:8

December 2020

We are home. I preached our last service on Sunday December 13<sup>th</sup>; packed our things on Monday and Tuesday we rented a van to drive to Rome, as the Naples airport closed due to the Virus restrictions.

Wednesday we flew into Istanbul Turkey with a 48 hour layover, so toured the city and enjoyed the sites.



Turkey has an interesting way of implementing restrictions – the citizens are restricted much as we are in the states or even in Naples, but the city is wide open to tourists. Tourists and places that cater to tourism were all open, so we... cautiously toured... On Friday we flew into Washington DC, spent two nights with our friend (like family) Nancy Springer. Early Sunday morning we caught our last leg

into Boise where our son was waiting and made the final 3 hour drive home. Currently we are home, resting, sleeping in our own bed and in quarantine.



after all the experiences and interactions we had through the

to be cautious than regretful. The Picture above is the National Christmas Tree Washington DC.

hour drive home. Currently we

Seems funny to quarantine

traveling, but I think it's better

We give God the glory for all he has done for us and through us, the provisions, the comfort and reassurance, and the safety and health through all the travels. After three trips to Bible Baptist Naples we have friends like family there and have grown in our love for that ministry. I thank the Lord for Pastor and Mrs Olsen for their work there. Although we didn't see them this time, we were in regular contact via the phone with them. They plan on returning shortly after the first of the year and are currently wrapping up their business in the States, with doctor appointments and family.



While in Naples I lost my phone to a pickpocket. While frustrating at the time, I can only blame myself for my carelessness. We have been told many times to beware of that danger, but in our travels around there we had never experienced it. In a moment of carelessness and without thinking about it I placed my phone in my jacket pocket with the top of it exposed and as we moved through a crowd – it was gone. I told my kids not to worry about it (as they were more angry about that than Deb or I were), and that the thieves had to eat too. It is a lesson on attachments though, and where we place our trust. Currently I am waiting a new phone, so if you have contacted me via phone in the last month that is why I haven't returned your message.

It is a blessing to serve our Lord in this capacity, and we are honored to be at his beckoning. Lord bless and Merry Christmas. Semper Fidelis

Brother John Martin

***Exodus 34:6 "The LORD God, merciful and gracious ... and abundant in goodness"***

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