



The Danger of Good Things *by Pastor Stephen Kaneshiro*

As we strive to love the Lord our God with all of our heart, mind, and soul, be aware that satan is not happy with you and will attack you, if he has not already started, and try to destroy you. He is a scoundrel who uses LIES to deceive and destroy you. John 8:44 (NLT) says:

⁴⁴*For you are the children of your father the devil, and you love to do the evil things he does. He was a murderer from the beginning. He has always hated the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, it is consistent with his character; for he is a liar and the father of lies.*

Look at what this passage is saying:

1. Everything he does is evil.
2. He was a murderer from the very beginning.
3. He has always hated truth.
4. There is no truth in him.
5. Lying is consistent with his character.
6. He is the father of lies.



Please let me share something with you from my heart and from years of experience in counseling and trying to help people to defeat the works of satan in their lives. Because satan is the father of lies, he will try to fool you into thinking that good things are good. Good things are good only if they are consistent with loving God with all of your heart, mind, and soul. The truth is that good things can keep you from loving God with all of your heart, mind, and soul. Therefore, that which God had intended to be good has now become evil because satan, the father of lies, has twisted it into being his tool to drive a wedge between you and God.

Many times we come to realize how deceived we were when we have drifted so far away from the Lord that we sometimes feel like there is no hope in trying to get back to the Lord. This hopelessness is also a lie from satan. In Christ, all things are possible. Look at what **Philippians 4:13 (NLT)** says:

¹³*For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.*

Let me give you an example of one of the biggest deceptions that I have seen. Many of you love and care for your families (the children) that the Lord has so lovingly given to you. Therefore, you sacrifice so much for them and you will carve out time to be with them and to provide for them. Parents, especially you fathers, your main responsibility is to train your children in Godliness. **Ephesians 5:4 (HCSB)** says:

⁴*Fathers, don't stir up anger in your children, but bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.*

Many of us have planned our family times on Sunday. Sometimes we even sacrifice church in order to have those family times. **Exodus 20:8 (NLT)** says:

⁸*Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.*

In many cases we are training our children to believe that Sunday (our Sabbath) is a holiday rather than a Holy Day. A Holy Day is a day that is set apart and dedicated to the Lord to all that He desires of us. It is not a day to take care of what we have not been able to do during the rest of the week. It is a day to love and serve the Lord. It is a Holy Day for the Lord and not for us. It is a day about Him not about us.

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The Danger of Good Things (continued)

Caring for and loving our family is a good thing. In fact, it is a very good thing. However, when we misunderstand what God desires for our family to be good for us, we play right into the devil's hands. Remember that he is the father of lies and according to John 10:10, he means to steal from us, kill us, and destroy us. He is very subtle in working his evil ways into our lives.

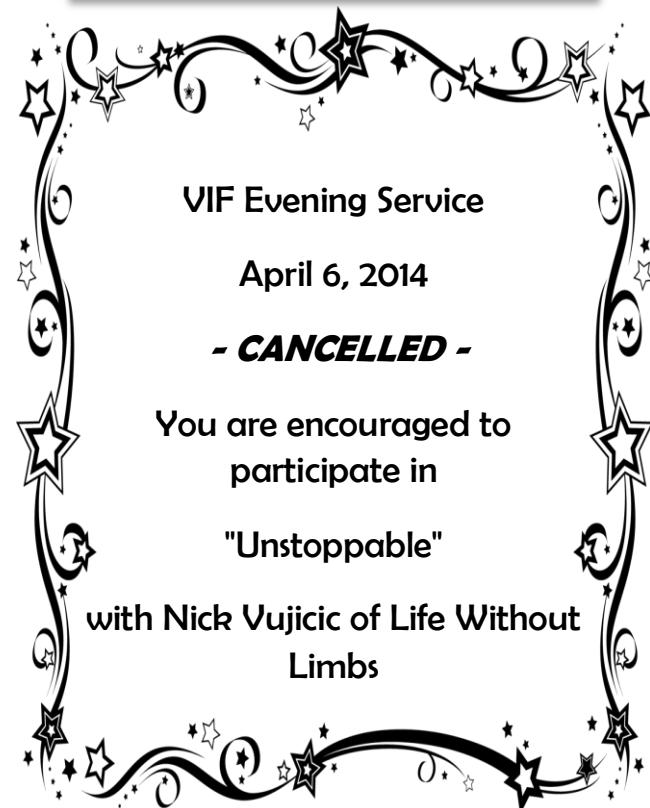
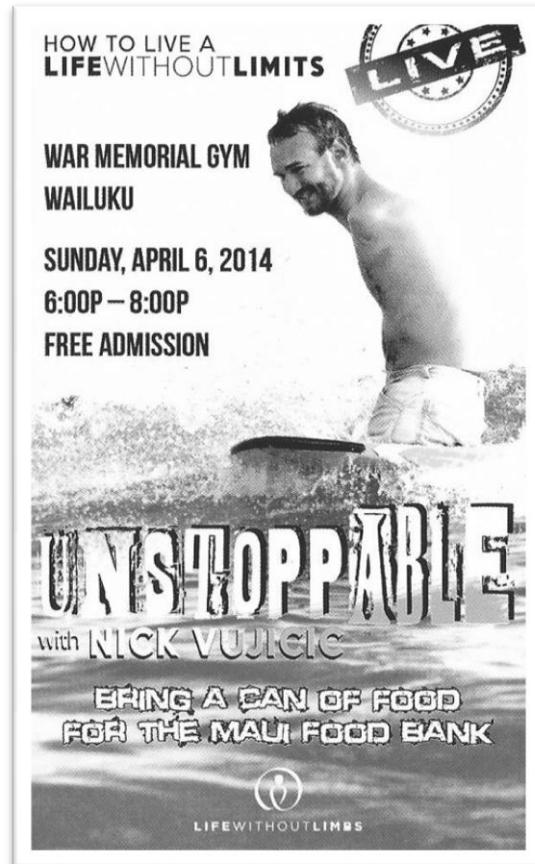
When our family is functioning the way that God desires, our family will be a Godly family. Our family will be one that loves the Lord with all of their hearts, minds, and souls. They will not be self-centered but rather they will be Christ-centered. They will live lives of sacrifice and not convenience. Our children will grow to be adults who love and serve the Lord with all their lives because that is the way they have been brought up and therefore the way that they love to be. Parents, your sacrificial love and service for the Lord will be caught more than taught. Your example will go farther than words. We need to show them before we tell them. When this happens, your family is truly a "good thing."

We have to work hard at recapturing the "good things" for the glory and honor of the Lord. We have to work hard at resisting the devil so he will flee from us (James 4:7). Satan is trying to deceive you about many "good things" in your life. Fight against his devious ways and yield yourself to the Lord.

Remember, all things are possible to those who love the Lord. It is not too late to turn things around. Love the Lord with all of your heart, mind, and soul and let Him give you a new perspective on all of the so called "good things" in your life. Let Him reorient things so all things can work together for good (Romans 8:28). I know that it is not easy to turn things around, but the consequences for turning things around are so much more joyous than the consequences for failing to turn things around.

To Him be all the glory and honor. May He be lifted up in our lives so that all people around us might see that He is alive and well. God bless you all.

Yours In Christ,
Stephen Kaneshiro



AM Service: Pastor Stephen Kaneshiro

Preparing for the Challenge of Your Lifetime *John 12:1-11*

1. Don't Hide

- A. Authorities were plotting to kill Him.
- B. God will not let anything happen to you until it is in His time.
- C. In the face of your challenges – don't hide.

2. Continue to Live for Jesus

- A. Continue to be in fellowship.
- B. Continue to allow others to minister – especially to you.
- C. Know what battle to fight and what battles to let go.
- D. Just Live for Jesus until the end.

3. Don't Avoid Risks

- A. To Self
- B. Even to Others

NOTES:

Knowing God or Knowing About God by Fabs Harford

Pastor Jeremy found this article on the website below and would like to share it with all of you

<http://www.vergenetwork.org/2014/02/19/knowning-god-or-knowning-about-god/>

The main problem I have with making disciples, is that it's impossible.

I mean, literally, it's not possible. God wants us to move people towards:

- knowing Him (walking in intimate relationship with Him),
- loving each other (the same way we love ourselves),
- and living out what Jesus says to do (with an obedience from the heart).



We can't *make* anyone do any of those things. I guess God likes it that way. He wants the call on our lives to be one that leads us to lean on Him in desperate weakness, so He gives us a task that is impossible so that we stay weak and He gets to move through us.

But we aren't super psyched about the weak thing because it's desperately uncomfortable. So instead, we reduce discipleship to something we feel like we can control.

Instead of raising the bar and working through our insecurity and weakness, we lower it even further and minimize even those pieces of discipleship:

- We reduce knowing God *to* knowing things about God
- We reduce loving one another *to* making one another feel loved
- We reduce doing what Jesus said *to* doing what Jesus did

Let's take those one at a time.

Some of us have reduced knowing God to **knowing things about God**.



When it comes to God, you and I never primarily had a knowledge problem. According to Romans 1, we knew true things about God (limited things, but still true things) and we refused to honor and treasure those things. EG: I'm anxious today. It's not because I don't know that God is a good provider; it's because I don't see fit to acknowledge Him as provider.

If we reduce *knowing* God (in a deep relational sense) to knowing things about God, then we're going to find ourselves producing disciples that look like demons – who have perfect knowledge of God but refuse to treasure Him.

It...must...be...more.

Knowing things about God is part of it. You cannot worship and follow an unknown God. You cannot trust true things about God if you don't KNOW true things about God. You must lock God's truth away in your heart and eat His Word because that is the only way to know the truth of who He is, but it cannot stop there.

Knowing God is not just what we know about God, but how we *respond to* what we know about God. It's treasuring what we know about God, being hungry for more of Him, not as an academic pursuit, but as a person who can be known.

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Knowing God or Knowing About God *(continued)*

Think about your kids, your friends, all those you are wanting to help grow in Christ. Here are some questions to consider:

1. Are you leading people to lean on you or the bible?

Your words don't create faith, they provide information. God's words actually produce faith in His kids. Scripture is one of the means God uses to change us from people who know true things, to people who trust and treasure true things.

2. What do you use as the mark of maturity in discipleship?

Somewhere along the way we learned that knowing things about God = maturity in Christ. Somewhere between our scripture memory quizzes and our bible drills we began to think that growing is the same as gaining more information. How are you communicating that those things are a means to a far greater end? How are you defining maturity for those around you?

3. Are you facilitating spaces and relationships that challenge others to face areas where they do not treasure the truths they know?

This is why so many of our generation love conferences, classes, bible studies: they can get lost in the crowd, gain knowledge without ever being challenged to see if they actually believe it.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR - FABS HARFORD



Fabs is Director of Women's Training at The Austin Stone Community Church. Fabs is in charge of training and equipping the women of The Austin Stone to know God more deeply, love His Gospel more passionately and live out God's mission. Practically, that means that she oversees both the strategy and the execution of any training for women at The Austin Stone, including everything from the Women's Development Program to classes and events. Follow on Twitter @fabsharfard

<http://www.vergenetwork.org/2014/02/19/knowing-god-or-knowing-about-god/>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lord's Supper

Today, during both morning services, we will be observing the Lord's Supper. We observe this ordinance on the last Sunday of every other month. The next time we observe this ordinance will be in May.

Waikapu Work Day - April 12, 2014 8 am-3 pm

Come join us on Saturday, April 12, at the Waikapu Property to help with the huge task of Property Maintenance. Please bring any tools you can: Lawn mowers, weed wackers, wheel barrels, rakes, gloves, etc. COME JOIN US in this awesome time of fellowship and service. ***Many hands make light work***

Easter Revival Celebration - April 19, 2014 4:30 pm -7:00 pm Waikapu Property

We will be coming together to experience God's Grace and Love for a Revival of heart, soul, and mission to our community and to the world. There will be a dinner to follow. If you would like to sign up to help with this event, please see the back table for sign-up sheets. Also, you will find flyers and invitations to the event on the back table. Please pick some up to hand out.

Easter Sunday Service - April 20, 2014 Waikapu Property

Please join us on Easter Sunday at our Waikapu Property for our Sunrise Easter Devotional at 6:00 am and our Easter Sunday Service at 9:00 am. It will be a wonderful time to Rejoice because Jesus is Alive!

Building Fund Giving

We are once again providing the "Building Fund" envelopes, although the Capital Campaign drive is now over. We have finally gotten all of the approvals for both our water line project and our building permit. We are planning to aggressively move ahead to construct both the water line and our building. Therefore, we are going to give you the opportunity to continue to give to the completion of these projects and to the renovations of the trailers that will also be a part of our campus. If we all give as the Lord directs us, we will have all of the resources to do what He desires of us. God bless you all.

North American Missions and the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering

As followers of Christ, our biblical call includes sowing seeds in our own communities. We are all partners in firmly planting the gospel throughout North America. NAMB missionaries are involved in planting churches dedicated to ensuring that those who hear the good news of Jesus are firmly planted in the gospel and are bearing fruit. They need all of us to join with them in the challenge to reach the 263 million people living in the United States and Canada who do not have a personal relationship with Christ.

Why Give to Annie Armstrong? Because three of four people in North America are lost. One hundred percent of dollars given to the AAEO go to support thousands of missionaries and their ministries in the United States and Canada. The national goal is \$70 million. The Hawaii Pacific Goal is \$150,000. If you are being led to give to the offering, you can find the Annie Armstrong envelopes at the back table after service.

Basketball MAUI - June 23-27

It about that time for Basketball MAUI's awesome annual summer basketball camp open to anyone ages 7-19. Visit <http://www.basketballmaui.com/camp/> for more information. Scholarships are available.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Volunteers Needed!

We are in need of people to volunteer to clean our church facilities on High Street. Tasks include:

Sanctuary/3 bathrooms:

1. Vacuum floors
2. Empty rubbish containers
3. Straighten room/dust as needed



Annex Big Room

1. Vacuum floor
2. Empty rubbish containers

Please sign up on the back table if you'd like to help. We ask that you choose one day of the following: Thursday, Friday, OR Saturday of the week that you are able to volunteer to do the work.

If three people were to volunteer each week, it would take only about an hour or so to complete. By joining together in this task, we can have fellowship, fun, and bring glory and honor to the Lord. Please pray about this need.



High Street Cleaning Schedule

Week of April 3-5

Blando, Mendez



Week of April 10-12

Waki, Hashimoto



Week of April 17-19

Suguitan

child care Schedule

Today

March 30, 2014

Team 1

Jennifer Egami

Corey Egami

Donna Nozaki

Elijah Douglas

Christian Motonaga

Next Week

April 6, 2014

Team 2

Joycelyn Kiahia

Marion Kimura

Elaine Yamasaki

Avery Yamada

Zachary Yamada

Kaiani Kiahia

Daniel Olaso



Valley Isle Fellowship 2014 Calendar

March 2014

- 25-30 Pastor Darren & Pastor Jeremy attending Verge Conference in Austin, TX
- 30** **AM - Pastor Stephen - John 12:1-11**
Lord's Supper
PM - Pastor Stephen - BFM: The Kingdom



April 2014

- 5 Disaster Relief Training
- 6 AM - *Pastor Jeremy* - John 12:12-19
"Unstoppable" with Nick Vujicic
- 10-12 HPBC Wives in Ministry Retreat
- 12 Waikapu Work Day
"G" Force
- 13 AM - *Pastor Darren* - John 12:20-36
PM - *Pastor Darren* - BFM: Evangelism & Missions
- 18 Good Friday
- 19 Easter Revival Celebration
- 20 AM - Sunrise Easter Devotional
AM - Easter Sunday Service
- 27 AM - *Pastor Stephen* - John 12:37-50
PM - *Pastor Darren* - BFM: Stewardship

Valley Isle Fellowship

ph: (808) 244-0865
www.vifmaui.com

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES

Wailuku Elementary School Cafeteria
355 S High St. Wailuku, HI 96793

1st Service - 8:00 am
Child care available at High Street property

2nd Service - 9:45 am

Children & Youth Sunday School at High Street property

SUNDAY EVENING SERVICE

VIF Church Sanctuary
473 S High St. Wailuku, HI 96793

6:00 pm



"Valley Isle Fellowship Church"

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