



Valley Isle Fellowship
Love God. Love His Church. Love His World
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NEWSLETTER

April 12, 2015 www.vifmaui.com

Wake Up Pastor Stephen Kaneshiro

The events of Easter proved that Jesus sacrificed much for all of us. He suffered and died because of His great love for you and me. We need to figure out how we can be a pleasing aroma that will bless and glorify the Lord, Jesus Christ. As I have been thinking and praying about how can do this, the phrase "Wake Up" continually comes to my mind.

As I looked this phrase up and began to study it, the Lord brought three passages to me. The first is John 4:35 where the Lord emphasizes that *now is the time to work because the harvest is ready*. Therefore I need to wake up and get to work.

The second is Romans 13:11 where the call to wake up is so urgent due to the time of Salvation being so near.

The last passage is Revelation 3:1-3 where another urgent call to wake up is being made, and the consequences of failing to heed this call will result in the Lord coming *"to you suddenly, as unexpected as a thief."*

John 4:35 (NLT) *You know the saying, 'Four months between planting and harvest.' But I say, wake up and look around. The fields are already ripe for harvest.*

This passage causes great concern because I realize that when the fields are ripe and it is not harvested, the harvest begins to rot. I am concerned that the church has been asleep for far too long, and the harvest has begun to rot. If this is true, the church needs to wake up and save all that can be saved, otherwise, it will get more and more difficult for the good fruit to be harvested.

The church will be held responsible by the Lord for the rotting fruit, because we wasted our time in slumber. Therefore, the call to wake up is a serious call that comes with devastating consequences if we ignore it. It is very important that we continue to issue the call for Valley Isle Fellowship to wake up so that we can be a part of the solution rather than a part of the problem.

Romans 13:11 (NLT) *This is all the more urgent, for you know how late it is; time is running out. Wake up, for our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed.*

This passage once again emphasizes that time is running out and we have to be genuine and sincere in our love for our God and to love others the way that He commands. It is important to note that so many intend to do this, but they keep putting it off for another day. They intend to do it, but when that day

comes and they haven't done it, all the best intentions in the world will mean nothing.

This is a call for the church to wake up and be the church that God has called us to be. How long do you think you will have the opportunity to respond? The time may be shorter than you ever thought. Remember, that the best intentions will mean nothing if you fail to "wake up."

Revelation 3:1-3 (NLT) *¹"Write this letter to the angel of the church in Sardis. This is the message from the one who has the sevenfold Spirit of God and the seven stars: 'I know all the things you do, and that you have a reputation for being alive—but you are dead. ²Wake up! Strengthen what little remains, for even what is left is almost dead. I find that your actions do not meet the requirements of my God. ³Go back to what you heard and believed at first; hold to it firmly. Repent and turn to me again. If you don't wake up, I will come to you suddenly, as unexpected as a thief."*

This final passage says that if you don't wake up that He will come suddenly like a thief. A thief comes when you least expect him to, but he also comes to do you harm. He comes to steal from you and to take whatever he desires, regardless of how much you may need or desire it. Therefore, the Lord is warning of a very desperate time of sudden loss. This will be a very troublesome time and extremely painful. This all happens because we refuse to wake up.

However, the Lord is also saying that there may still be time to wake up and strengthen what little remains. What remains may almost be dead, but there may still be time to wake up and bring new life into them. However, if the call to wake up

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Wake Up

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falls on deaf ears, then the promise is that He will come like a thief in the night and all the calamities that He has warned us about, will fall upon us.

As your pastor, I realize that you might be getting very tired of me continuing to beat this drum. However, because I love all of you very much and because of all that God has and continues to reveal to me through His Word, I have to keep on sounding out the warning that we all need to wake up. We all need to wake up and love the Lord with all of our heart, mind and soul and to also love our neighbors as we love ourselves. This is something that is at the core of all that God has called me to communicate to you. What you have to determine is whether this message is just the babbling of Stephen Kaneshiro or if this is a message from the Lord. If it is only from Stephen, then disregard it. If it is from the Lord, then wake up. I love all of you and I am praying for all of you. God bless you all.

TWOTHIRDS WORLD NETWORK

MISSIONS DINNER

May 16, 2015 at 6:00 pm
473 S High St, Wailuku (VIF)



First, on behalf of Two Thirds World Network (TTWN) we want to thank you for your support and ardent prayers since the inception of TTWN over 6 years now. TTWN was formed for a simple and profound reason: to share the Good News and the love of Christ in a very practical way. We have been on mission in Southeast Asia and more particularly in the Philippines since 2009 by leading medical and dental missions and assisting in rebuilding villages devastated by natural disasters in order to lift up and encourage the people who were affected by these calamities all the while pointing to the love of God. Because of your support and prayers TTWN and its missionary partners work in villages and communities in order to touch the lives of many people by sharing His mercy and grace. We humbly ask for your continued prayers and support.

On **May 16, 2015 at 6pm**, TTWN will be hosting a free mission dinner at **Valley Isle Fellowship located at 473 S High Street, Wailuku**. The purpose of the dinner is to provide you an update on past and future missions, but more importantly to thank you for your kind and faithful support for the work that God has ordained us to accomplish His will. We pray that this event will encourage and inspire all of us to join God's mission work and be blessed by it. Tickets are available by contacting Vince Bagoyo 357-3842 or Grace Motonaga 357-4553. We hope to see you at the mission dinner.

Please feel free to visit our website at www.twothirdsworld.org for more detailed information about our mission. May God bless you always!

Why Does Jesus Seem Distant From Me?

By Darren Sarmiento

Do you ever feel that God and Jesus are distant from you? You read the Bible, pray, attend church and help serve but somehow the Lord still seems far from you rather than near to you? You believe you're doing things right, however there's a question looming in your mind as to whether or not you are doing the right things.

Many Christians believe in God, Jesus and everything that is written in the Bible. We call that "doctrine". Doctrine is defined as a set of beliefs and understanding of God. Pastor J.D. Greear says, "God seems more distant-more like a doctrine I knew about than a person I knew." He goes on to say, "I never want to downplay the important role of doctrine, but Christianity is more than doctrine. It is a relationship and experience that grows out of doctrine. We can never know God apart from Scripture, but knowing Scripture isn't the same as knowing God. Without doctrine, we have no way of interpreting our experiences; but without experience, our doctrine has no point."

So how can you have a close relationship with Jesus? Believing in the Gospel is more than having an awareness of God's love or even knowing and understanding the truth of Scripture. The main point of Christianity is the presence of God and Jesus in you. In John 14:18 Jesus said, *"I will not leave you as orphans I will come to you."* At this time, Jesus was preparing His disciples for His crucifixion and assuring them that He was not going to leave them alone. True or false? Jesus gave his disciples assignments and tasks by giving them commands to follow through on their own because He was leaving them after the crucifixion? The answer is false because He just said He was not leaving them as orphans. So how did Jesus promise that He was still going to be with them and among them even though they would not be able to see Him?

In John 14:16-17 Jesus says, *"¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, who will never leave you. ¹⁷ He is the Holy Spirit, who leads into all truth. The world cannot receive him, because it isn't looking for him and doesn't recognize him. But you know him, because he lives with you now and later will be in you."* Jesus is in us because the Holy Spirit is in us. We believe that the Trinity, the nature of one God in three persons, is God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit. When you experience one, you experience all three.

The Apostle Peter was preaching the Gospel to the Jews in Acts 2:38 when he replied, *"³⁸ Each of you must repent of your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."* It is the Holy Spirit in us that assures us of our intimate relationship with God and Jesus. It is the Holy Spirit in us that empowers us to love, follow and obey Jesus. In John 16:15 Jesus said, *"... 'The Spirit will tell you whatever he receives from me.'"*



The assignments and tasks were never meant to be carried out alone, in our own strength and wisdom. Jesus gave us the Holy Spirit to help us through everything. We no longer have Jesus in bodily form, but we have Him in the spiritual form. It is to our advantage that Jesus lives in us through the Holy Spirit. All Christians around the world can now feel the presence of the Lord all at the same time. He will never leave us nor forsake us because of the Holy Spirit in us.

The presence of the Holy Spirit in you is the close presence of Jesus with you. In the words of Peter *we need to repent, turn to God and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.* We need to believe that He forgives us of our sins and we will receive the Holy Spirit. Reading the Bible helps you interpret your experiences with Jesus. Praying to Jesus gives you the opportunity to see Jesus at work in and around your life. Serving others gives you the privilege of being a part of the power of Jesus at work in you and everyone else and to see and feel His love. I pray that the combination of the knowledge and experiences of Jesus in and through the Holy Spirit will always assure you that He is near and never distant from you!

Stop Just Going To Church

By Jeff Vanderstelt

It all began in a boat on a lake with a few fishing poles. It was there, surrounded by the lazy water, my dad and I would have a key conversation that would change the trajectory of my life. My dad was giving me a simple update on his life and shared that his church was hiring a discipleship pastor. After I pushed past my internal dialog about how hiring a pastor for discipleship betrayed that the church didn't see everything they did as discipleship, **I heard my father say he was excited to learn how to make disciples—finally.**

I was thankful for my father's surge of energy toward Jesus' commission but also a bit troubled. My dad didn't seem to realize he raised me in a home where daily life was engaged as intentional ministry. He owned several small businesses and believed his business was meant to be a blessing to people and the city we lived in. As a result, we joined our parents in countless acts of kindness, generosity, and hospitality.

It was not uncommon for one of us four boys to give up our room for a season to make room for a young man getting a fresh start, a broken husband whose marriage was on the rocks, or a runaway teen who needed some stability. My dad would love



and mentor these men during the day at one of his businesses while my mom would nurture and care for them like one of her own.

I watched young and old come to know the love of Jesus and receive very informal but effective training in how to become responsible, hard-working, loving men. Because of my parents' ministry at home and at work, many men still call our family "their own."

However, the church never called this "ministry." They didn't see that my mother's gracious hospitality and my father's mentoring through work created both the environment and means for discipleship to happen.

I was not saddened simply because my parents' ministry was never legitimized; Jesus was working through it all along, and God the Father was pleased to watch His children at work. What saddened me was that many churches (and many in the church) don't view their homes as one of the best contexts for ministry, and their workplaces are some of the most overlooked places for mentoring and mission.

Most people will spend one third of their lives at work and at least another third in or around their homes; that means that more than two-thirds of our lives are considered non-ministry space. In addition, most still believe church is a place you **go** for one-to-four hours a week where most of the discipleship happens. **This means a very large majority of Christians see only a very small percentage of their lives dedicated to the mission of making disciples.** It's no wonder so few believers are fruitful in ministry.

Share this: "It's time to equip and mobilize Jesus' church out of the building and into life." @jeffvanderstelt

What if we could help everyday people live with gospel intentionality in everyday life, both at work and at home, to make disciples? What if every workplace, school, neighborhood, and café were filled with Spirit-filled, Jesus-loving, disciple-makers every day? We might just see cities and towns saturated with the presence, power, and love of Jesus through everyday people like my mom and dad.

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Stop Just Going To Church

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Pastors and church leaders were not called by God to do the ministry for the many. They are given to the church to equip the many for the ministry in the marketplace and the home. **It's time to equip and mobilize Jesus' church out of the building and into life.** Let's stop just going to church and start being the church every day and everywhere!

This article can be found at <http://www.vergenetwork.org/2015/03/18/stop-just-going-to-church/>

This article was printed by permission by the author. Requested by Pastor Jeremy Kaneshiro

Jeff Vanderstelt is the visionary leader for the Soma Family of Churches and the lead teaching pastor at Doxa Church in Bellevue, Washington. When he isn't preaching or mentoring church planters, he and his family share life with their missional community. He is the author of *Saturate: Being Disciples of Jesus in the Everyday Stuff of Life*.

GARAGE SALE FUNDRAISER

On Saturday, May 2, 2015 Two Thirds World Network will be holding a garage sale for Mission Outreach in South East Asia. It will be held on the front lawn of our High Street campus from 7am to 11am. The mission field has grown from a basketball court in Santa, Ilocos Sur, Philippines, to all over Southeast Asia. This year there is a planned trip in August to scout out mission opportunities in Cambodia. Your generosity in the past has helped spread God's love in real and practical ways. So, if you find yourself ready to do a spring cleaning and wish to donate items to the mission field, please contact Grace Motonaga 357-4553. We are so very thankful. God Bless!

PS Don't forget to come shopping too!!

COUNSELORS NEEDED

Do you want to make an impact on kids & teens lives?

We are looking for volunteer camp counselors for our youth (June 8-12) & children's (June 22-26) camps.

Please contact the office if you are interested.



TONIGHT

6:00 pm

**CHURCH
BUSINESS
MEETING**

VIF Sanctuary

March 30th, 2015

Hello Family and Friends!

As my time as a student at the University of Oregon comes to an end, I have been thinking and praying about life after school. Throughout my time in college I have had my fair share of blessings and trials, and through those experiences, my faith has grown as I continue to experience the love, grace and goodness of God. However, I also see a lost world in need of the Gospel. I recently befriended one of the Navigators Campus Ministries Staff, Phillip Henry, through my intramural flag football team. As we started meeting consistently, my heart has really started to grow for those without the gospel. So when Phillip presented the opportunity to travel with a team of five to the country of Slovakia, I knew God was asking me to take a step of faith.

The Mission

In **Slovakia**, our main objective is to work with the Navigators English Immersion School in Bratislava as conversation partners during a Summer English Camp. Through these conversations we pray and hope to build friendships as we talk about and share cultures, experiences and faith. These students are considered by many to be some of the brightest in Slovakia and are looked upon as future leaders of the country. God calls us to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth and I couldn't think of a better opportunity to strengthen my walk with Him and work towards further building His kingdom here on earth.

My Need

My airfare, food and lodging, preparation, and ministry expenses will total **\$3,920**. Would you prayerfully consider contributing a special gift to this ministry opportunity as part of your giving to the Lord and His work? To reach this goal, gifts of **\$50**, **\$75**, and **\$100** are needed, as well as **\$500** or more. As the Lord leads you, gifts of any size will be gratefully appreciated. Please also keep the team and I in your prayers as we go abroad to share Christ.

There are several ways to give before the **May 31st** deadline:

- 1) You can return the enclosed response card with your check payable to **The Navigators**
- 2) You can return the enclosed response card with credit or debit card information
- 3) You can give online by going to: www.navigators.org/donate
 - a. Select "Choose staff or projects"
 - b. Type in my navigators ID number in the search bar: **23825939**
 - c. Fill out the donation form that appears

Thank you for considering this investment in the Lord's work. It's a joy to be a part of what He's doing to advance the gospel of Jesus and His kingdom around the world. Please also keep the team and I in your prayers as we go abroad to share Christ.



Yours in Christ,
Destin Olaso



navmissions
living and discipling among the nations

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



CRISIS CARE MINISTRY

Pastor Stephen Kaneshiro
419-8100



call Church Office
244-0865



Handyman Ministry

Andy Sniffen
264-0529

YOU 
CAN MAKE A
DIFFERENCE

Malama
Pregnancy
Center
of Maui

280-5810

Jenn.mpcmaui@gmail.com

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

7:00 am
Set-up

9:00 am
Worship Service (no childcare)

10:30 am
Sunday School (High St Property)
Adult Prayer Time (Cafeteria)

6:00 pm
Evening Service (High St Property)

**"Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it
with thanksgiving!"
Colossians 4:2 (ESV)**

Here are opportunities to gather together in prayer
Sunday's at 10:30 am (Cafeteria)
Monday's 10 am, 3 pm & 6:30 pm (High St Sanctuary)

Gather together to pray for God to move within our-
selves, our church, community, nation and world. Please
join us for these very powerful times with the Lord and

PASTOR JEREMY WILL Be ON
vacation FROM
April 28th-May 16th.

PASTOR STEPHEN WILL Be ON
vacation FROM
August 8th-19th

on vacation

Valley Isle Fellowship 2015 Calendar

April 2015

- 12 9 am - Pastor Jeremy
10:30 am - Sunday School at High St Property &
Adult Prayer in Cafeteria
6 pm - Business Meeting
- 13 10 am - Prayer Meeting @ Sanctuary
3 pm - Prayer Meeting @ Sanctuary
6:30 pm - Prayer Meeting @ Sanctuary
- 15 6:30pm - Youth Group "Fuel" @ Sanctuary
- 19 9 am - Pastor Jeremy
10:30 am - Sunday School at High St Property &
Adult Prayer in Cafeteria
6 pm - Pastor Stephen
- 20 10 am - Prayer Meeting @ Sanctuary
3 pm - Prayer Meeting @ Sanctuary
6:30 pm - Prayer Meeting @ Sanctuary
- 22 6:30pm - Youth Group "Fuel" @ Sanctuary
- 26 9 am - Pastor Jeremy
10:30 am - Sunday School at High St Property &
Adult Prayer in Cafeteria
6 pm - Pastor Darren



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To receive messages via text, text **@mrvif** to **81010**.
You can opt-out of messages at anytime by replying,
'unsubscribe @mrvif'.

Trouble using 81010? Try texting **@mrvif** to **(808) 670-3442** instead.

Standard text message rates apply.



Today's Worship Songs

For Who You Are

My Savior, My God

My Hope Is In You Lord

Valley Isle Fellowship

473 S High St, PO Box 886, Wailuku, HI 96793

ph: (808) 244-0865 • vifoffice@hawaii.rr.com • www.vifmaui.com

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES

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

Service - 9:00 am

Sunday School - 10:30 am

Children & Youth Sunday School at High Street property

SUNDAY EVENING SERVICE

VIF Church Sanctuary
6:00 pm



www.facebook.com/valleyislefellowship



@VIFMaui

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Darren Sarmiento

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Senior Pastor

Stephen Kaneshiro

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121 Ho`owaiwai Lp #801

Wailuku, HI 96793

Associate Pastor

Jeremy Kaneshiro

Cell: (808) 280-2780

Email: vifjeremy@gmail.com

Isaiah 6: Sovereign

Pastor Jeremy Kaneshiro

¹*In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple.* ²Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. ³And one called to another and said:

“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory!”

⁴And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke. ⁵And I said: “Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!”

⁶Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. ⁷And he touched my mouth and said: “Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for.”

1. Sovereign...

“¹In the year that King Uzziah died...”

a. Over _____.

i. King over _____ and _____.

“...I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple.”

b. Over _____.

i. King over all of _____.

How is this practical?

1. _____ us.

2. Shapes our _____.

3. Corrects our _____ in good and bad times.