



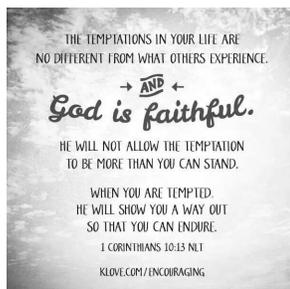
God's Love Is Greater Than All the Evil That Might Surround Us

Pastor Stephen Kaneshiro

God's love for us is undisputed amongst the majority of us. However, there is a vocal minority that claims that God is anything but loving. This minority asks the aged old question, "How can a loving God allow so much evil in this world?" I know that there are many other questions that this minority group asks, but all the other questions seem to stem from this aged old question. Therefore, let's try to address this question in this article.

First of all, I want to admit that there is a truth in this question. God does allow evil in this world because nothing can exist in this world without God's permission. The most notable example of this can be found in the book of Job, where God has a conversation with Satan about His servant, Job. Here God asks Satan if he had noticed Job. The following takes place:

Job 1:9-12 (NLT) ⁹ Satan replied to the LORD, "Yes, but Job has good reason to fear God. ¹⁰ You have always put a wall of protection around him and his home and his property. You have made him prosper in everything he does. Look how rich he is! ¹¹ But reach out and take away everything he has, and he will surely curse you to your face!" ¹² "All right, you may test him," the LORD said to Satan. "Do whatever you want with everything he possesses, but don't harm him physically." So Satan left the LORD's presence.



Satan was then allowed to test Job with his evil. Take notice that God allowed the testing of Job and not his destruction. Yes, this testing was severe and filled with much calamity. However, God did not agree to his destruc-

tion. **1 Corinthians 10:13 (NLT)** ¹³ The temptations in your life are no different from what others experience. And God is faithful. He will not allow the temptation to be more than you can stand. When you are tempted, he will show you a way out so that you can endure.

His promise in 1 Corinthians 10:13 even applied to Job. This testing was evil and severe, but Job leaned on the Lord and refused to turn and curse Him.

As a volunteer Police Chaplain, I saw a demonstration of this. I was called on to make a "death notification" of a young boy to his parents. Immediately I saw the anguish and grief fall upon the parents and the family gathered in a special room in the ER. Then I heard the father yell out in terrible, "I will not let this turn me away from You, Lord! I will still love You!" Then I watched this father live out this commitment. At this young boy's funeral, I saw this young boy's uncle and grandfather accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. There continued to be terrible brokenness and grief, but Jesus' love and grace was prevailing and widespread.

Although God might allow some evil to take place in our lives, it is not necessarily His desire for that evil to play out in our lives. In many situations, evil takes hold because of the bad decisions that we make. Warning after warning may go out, but in too many cases, these warnings are ignored. **Ezekiel 33:2-5 (NLT)** ² "Son of man, give your people this message: 'When I bring an army against a country, the people of that land choose one of their own to be a watchman. ³ When the watchman sees the enemy coming, he sounds the alarm to warn the people. ⁴ Then if those who hear the alarm refuse to take action, it is their own fault if they die. ⁵ They heard the alarm but ignored it, so the responsibility is theirs. If they had listened to the warning, they could have saved

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God's Love Is Greater Than All the Evil That Might Surround Us

Pastor Stephen Kaneshiro

(continued from page 1) their lives. Bad choices can bring evil consequences. As you think and pray about this aspect, I believe God will bring to your mind many examples of this.

Finally, in the face of the greatest evils that confront us, God gives us the greatest opportunities to be used of Him. We may feel that these greatest evils are being perpetrated on us in isolation and darkness and we may think, "How can God use this for His glory?" It is at this point that we need to turn our thoughts and our hearts to saying, "Lord, even if this can't be used for your glory, I will still love you and be faithful to you even if I must die." I recently saw a movie of one writer's thoughts on the death of the apostle Simon Peter. This movie began with Peter being dragged into a Roman jail. It ended with him being led out of the jail to be executed. However, the glorifying point was that he was being led out by the two Roman guards that he had gently but powerfully led to Jesus Christ. They were willing to set Peter free and risk their lives in doing so. However, Peter said, "No, don't keep me any longer from being with my Lord!"

"The deepest level of worship is praising God in spite of pain, thanking God during a trial, trusting Him when tempted, surrendering while suffering, and loving Him when He seems distant."
~ Rick Warren

Calling any college age student including recent high school grads . . . Come join us for a weekend retreat on Lanai!!!

\$40
Club 127 College
Camping Trip
August 4-6
Brandon Kelly - Lanai
b.kelly@mcbacollege.org

Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you **rest.**
- Jesus
Matthew 11:28



Want to get a head start? Operation Christmas Child is only three short months away. Take advantage of the Back-to-School sales happening now . . .

School Supplies: pens, pencils and sharpeners, crayons, markers, notebooks, paper, solar calculators, coloring and picture books, etc.

Crafts: Make your own items such as hair bows, finger puppets, and friendship bracelets. (See instructions for various projects at:

<https://www.pinterest.com/ocshoebboxes/>)

Humble Pie

Pastor Darren Sarmiento

*“When the seventy-two disciples returned, they joyfully reported to him,
“Lord, even the demons obey us when we use your name!”*

Luke 10:17 NLT

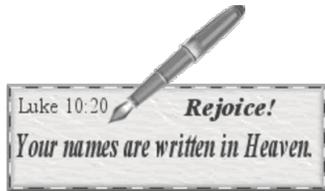
*”But don’t rejoice because evil spirits obey you;
rejoice because your names are registered in heaven.”*

Luke 10:20 NLT

Remember the saying, “We all need a piece of humble pie in our lives”? In the Christian community it seems that when Christians do good or great things for God and Jesus that somehow they get displayed as people who know what they are doing. Yet, that’s not the worst part. The worst part is that some Christians actually get puffed up or as we say in Hawaii “big headed” that they are doing things for the Lord. In the Scriptures above it is the Lord Jesus who is speaking to His disciples after He sent them out to preach repentance for the Kingdom of God is near. Jesus was telling His disciples to be humble, don’t focus on what you did or really what God did through you but, be humble.



Now, did you catch what Jesus said what is the key to being a humble Christian? Luke 10:20b says, “Jesus said, ...Rejoice because your names are registered in heaven.” There are Christians and Christian leadership that so look at their accomplishments so much that they seem to be the guru to reaching people with the gospel. Let’s be clear about one thing. It’s not a problem sharing what you did or what God did through you. I’m really referring to our motives just like what Jesus is telling His disciples. Here is the piece of humble pie. The way how not to get big headed when you are doing ministry work is to remember where you are going to be when all is said and done on earth. Even as I believe we need to share with others what we are doing for the Lord, it is just as important to remember why you are doing what you’re doing.



Jesus wanted His disciples to focus on the motive when they were doing ministry more than focusing on ministry itself. The question comes up as to why? Because when you and I are doing ministry for the pure pleasure for God then that’s when we give Him all the glory! You want a piece of Jesus’ humble pie when you’re living and doing His will? Then, keep remembering that your name is written in the Book of Life!

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

**Sunday,
July 2, 2017**

¹⁹ Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. ²⁰ Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

Matthew 28:19 NLT



Announcements



Childcare Ministry Schedule

- Today, July 23** **Team 4:** Hawea R, Cheeng S, Jezra S, Danae O
- July 30 **Team 1:** Karen F, Kolbe F, Alysha F, Melanie F, Marion K
- August 6 **Team 2:** Elaine Y, Wendy C, Krystal AV
- August 13 **Team 3:** Jennifer B, Francis C, Jaydee G, Jules G, Christine B



Be in the know! Join our text alerts . . .

To receive messages via text:

A) If you have a smartphone, get push notifications.
On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to

rmd.at/mrvif

Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind.
You'll be prompted to download the mobile app.

B) If you don't have a smartphone, get text notifications.

Text the message **@mrvif** to the number 81010 or (808)670-3442

OR

C) Give your cell number to the office and request to be added.

**Standard text message rate may apply.*

For more information or help call the Church Office @244-0865.



Church Cleaning Schedule

Week of July 27-29

Team 4

Hawea R, Wendy I, Lynette K, Anna G, Stephen K*

Week of August 3-5

Team 5

Carol S, Marion K, Makaanani C, Josie Y*, Bautista Ohana

Week of August 10-12

Team 6

Stephen K, Hubert I, Leslie T, Ernie P, David P, Chad K

Week of August 17-19

Team 1

Yeiko E, Elaine Y, Teri C, Cecile H, Cathy D, Kenneth K, Lucille K*

**Key Monitor*

Sign-up on the back table to be a part of this ministry.



Coffee Bar Ministry

Part-time

(8 am - 9 am and 10:30 am - 11:30 am)

Requirement

A heart to love and serve God

Job Description

Set-up/Host/Clean-up

Benefits

Joy and Fellowship

Contact

Rosy Olaso (244-8185)
for more info and to sign-up

MISSIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

NAMB Missionary Spotlight:



Pray for laborers to join us to help on various ministry teams. Pray for a harvest from all the hard work put in through our outreach. Pray for success in our life groups. - *Daniel and Melissa Torres*



International Mission Board

Connecting in Prayer
<https://www.imb.org/pray/>

*Please pray for **Prime Minister Aleksandar Vucic of Serbia** (southeastern Europe).

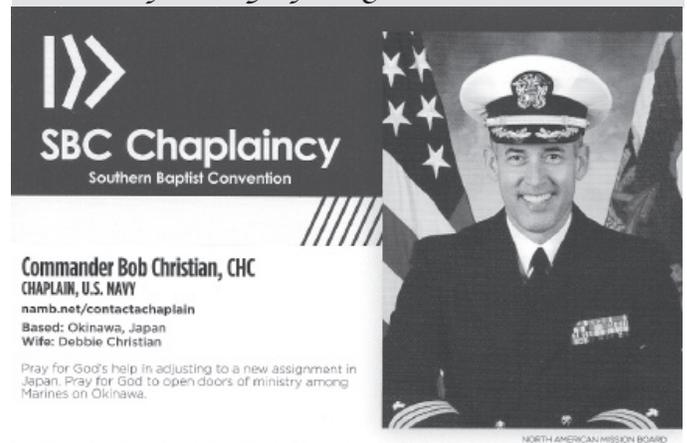
***Send Conferences 2017**-The final 2017 Send North America Conference will be held next week in Orlando, FL, July 25-26. The heart of this gathering is to see a movement of people from within the church living out the mission of God both here in North America and around the world. Please join us in praying that speakers, volunteers, and participants will all sense the Spirit of God moving in their hearts and respond in obedience.

***Mexico City, Mexico**-The Gateway Mexico City Team includes men, women, and families who desire to press on toward the goal of knowing Christ and making His name known. Circumstances of life can be hard in this city, so the team and their partners seek strength from the Spirit to help them when the work is difficult and when many people reject Christ. As they rely on the Spirit to empower them to reach the unreached in Mexico City with the gospel, they are discipling Mexican believers so they will also go into all the world and share God's love with those who do not know Him. As they seek wisdom from the Lord as a gifted and diverse team, pray with them for a unified vision and fruitful ministries in and through Mexico City for the glory of God.

***People of White Mountain, East Asia**-“A couple from our area is beginning to work among the Muslims. Please intercede for this couple as they build relationships and share the Good News with the people. Pray that they will not be fearful but will trust in the power of the gospel to change lives.”

Hispanic Ministry - The number of Hispanic SBC churches grew by more than 65 percent between 2000 and 2010, according to Annual Church Profile statistics provided by LifeWay Christian Resources. Pray that God will raise up planters with a burning, God-given passion to reach Hispanics (whether they are first, second or third generation) by starting new, multiplying churches in North America, regardless of the obstacles they may face. Pray for Hispanic leaders who would intentionally, by word and deed, influence the established churches and pastors nationwide to become Sending Churches in their geographical areas and across the U.S. and Canada.

SBC Chaplaincy Spotlight:



PrayerConnect

Connect with missionaries and chaplains by praying for them and their work, either through specific ministry prayer requests or on their birthdays.

Pete Cuison
 3146 Holly Brook Cir. NE
 Cleveland, TN 37323
psalmsreflections@gmail.com

Pete Cuison is currently serving as a chaplain in the Army National Guard. *I am currently in Army Chaplain Basic Officer Leadership Course (CHBOLC) in Fort Jackson, S.C., for 13 weeks along with more than 90 other chaplains of different faiths. Please pray for us to finish well. Pray for the families we left behind this summer. Thank you and God bless. For God and country, Pete*

Valley Isle Fellowship Calendar

July 2017

- 23 9:00 am - Worship Service
10:30 am - Sunday School
6:00 pm - Evening Service/Study
- 24 6:30 pm - Prayer Meeting
- 26 6:30 pm - Youth Night
- 30 9:00 am - Worship Service
- Lord's Supper Observed
10:30 am - Sunday School
6:00 pm - Evening Service/Study
- 31 6:30 pm - Prayer Meeting

August 2017

- 1 *DOE - Teachers First Day*
- 2 6:30 pm - Youth Night
- 4-6 Club 127 College Camping Trip Retreat
- 5 6:00 pm - Sunday School Teachers Meeting

- 6 9:00 am - Worship Service
10:30 am - Sunday School
12 noon - Discipleship Leaders Meeting
6:00 pm - Evening Service/Study
- 7 *DOE - Students' First Day*
6:30 pm - Prayer Meeting
- 9 6:30 pm - Youth Night
- 13 9:00 am - Worship Service
10:30 am - Sunday School
12 noon - Trustees Meeting
6:00 pm - Evening Service/Study
- 14 6:30 pm - Prayer Meeting
- 15 *Maui Christian Academy First Day of instruction*
- 16 6:30 pm - Youth Night
- 18 *Admissions Day - Office CLOSED*
- 20 9:00 am - Worship Service
10:30 am - Sunday School
6:00 pm - Evening Service/Study
- 21 6:30 pm - Prayer Meeting
- 23 6:30 pm - Youth Night

Valley Isle Fellowship

1033 Waiale Rd., PO Box 886, Wailuku, HI 96793
ph: (808) 244-0865 - vifoffice@vifmauihawaii.com - www.vifmaui.com

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

Worship Service - 9:00 am

Sunday School - 10:30 am

* * * * *

Senior Pastor

Stephen Kaneshiro

cell: (808)419-8100

email: icastephen@gmail.com

Associate Pastor

Darren Sarmiento

cell: (808)757-1651

email: darrens@vifmauihawaii.com

SUNDAY EVENING SERVICE

Worship/Study

6:00 pm



www.facebook.com/valleyislefellowship



@VIFMaui

Importance of Love

1 Thessalonians 4:9-12

Pastor Stephen Kaneshiro

I. Loving _____ – 1 Thessalonians 4:9-12

A. _____.

B. Second Greatest _____: - *Matthew 22:39*

C. God _____ and _____.

II. Loving is _____ – 1 Thessalonians 4:10a

A. Not just _____ or _____. - *James 1:22*

B. For the Thessalonians, their love was _____.

III. Loving _____ – 1 Thessalonians 4:10b

A. Urged to love _____.

B. Love moves from _____ to _____. - *John 15:12-13*

IV. Loving stays within _____ – 1 Thessalonians 4:11

A. Love _____. – *James 1:19*

B. Love _____.

C. Love _____.

V. Loving _____ others – 1 Thessalonians 4:12

A. Godly love draws _____.

B. Godly love depends on _____, not the _____.