



Valley Isle Fellowship

Love God. Love His Church. Love His World

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NEWSLETTER

July 31, 2016 www.vifmaui.com

God Is Still In Control

Pastor Stephen Kaneshiro

As I am writing this article (Monday, July 25th) I am reflecting on all of the craziness and evil that is surrounding us. It appears that the world is "out of control." Over the past weekend, Germany saw at least 3 violent acts where several have been killed and more have been injured. The Middle East continues to see acts of terrorism where innocent people are being slaughtered. In Florida, what appears to be a gang related act of violence has left 2 dead and several injured.



Then, as we look at our political situation, many are disappointed and discouraged with our whole political situation. Then, as we

look at our church situation, many are also discouraged and finding other avenues to place their efforts into (I am talking about the church in America). All of this seems to give us a gloom and doom kind of view on our lives. We even begin to wonder, "Where is God?"

I want you to know that through it all, GOD IS STILL IN CONTROL! Years ago, Andre Crouch wrote a song entitled, "Through it All." The words are as follows:

Verse 1:

I've had many tears and sorrows,

I've had questions for tomorrow,

There've been times I didn't know right from wrong.

But in every situation, God gave me blessed consolation,

That my trials come to only make me strong.

Chorus:

Through it all, Through it all,

I've learned to trust in Jesus,

I've learned to trust in God.

Through it all, Through it all,

I've learned to depend upon His Word.

Verse 3:

I thank God for the mountains,

And I thank Him for the valleys,

I thank Him for the storms He brought me through.

For if I'd never had a problem,

I wouldn't know God could solve them,

I'd never know what faith in God could do.

These expressions of love and faith in God show maturity and loyalty to the Lord. This is a recognition that in spite of all craziness that surrounds us, there is still good reasons to trust in the Lord and to faithfully love and rejoice in Him. **Deuteronomy 7:9-11 (NLT):**
⁹ *Understand, therefore, that the LORD your God is indeed God. He is the faithful God who keeps his covenant for a thousand generations and lavishes his unfailing love on those who love him and obey his commands.* ¹⁰ *But he does not hesitate to punish and destroy those who reject him.* ¹¹ *Therefore, you must obey all these commands, decrees, and regulations I am giving you today.*

The Lord's promises are good and He will always keep them. Yes, there may be a violent storm that is surrounding and impacting your life, but you can trust in the Lord to see you through those trials. He will never fail you. **Psalms 145:13 (NLT)** *For your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom. You rule throughout all generations. The LORD always keeps his promises; he is gracious in all he does.*

I don't believe that we will ever be immune from the storms and trials of life, but I can confidently say that the Lord will always be by your side. He will never leave or forsake you. You may think that He is not there, but I can assure you that He never will.

(continued on next page)

IN THIS

ISSUE

- 1-2 God Is Still In Control
- 2, 7 Announcements
- 3-4 Discipleship Is More Than Conveying Information
- 5 The Woodies' Whereabouts
- 6 Missional Opportunities
- 8 VIF Calendar
- 9 Sermon Notes

God Is Still In Control

Pastor Stephen Kaneshiro

(continued from page 1)

Last Sunday morning I gave the illustration of the 13-year old African young man who went into the woods to spend the night alone as his last step into manhood. All through the night there were fears that he had to battle against. Fears that were tempting him to run. However, when the first rays of the morning sunlight came, there in striking distance was his father. Armed and ready to protect him if the dangers grew to be too much for the young man. That is a great image of our Heavenly Father. He watches over us and is armed and ready to protect us when the challenges become too much for us to bear.

I want to encourage you to stay in the battle and to never give up. Our Lord is watching over us and we really have nothing to fear but fear itself. Let's move on to loving our Lord and seeking to bring Him the glory and honor that is due Him. Let us also move on to encouraging each other as we continue to wade into the battle together. May the Lord bless you and keep you as you bring glory and honor to Him.



Childcare Schedule

Today, July 31 **Team 1:** Marion K, Karen F, Kolbe F, Alysha F, Melanie F

Aug 7 **Team 2:** Elaine Y, Wendy C, Krystle AV, Dmitry V

Aug 14 **Team 3:** Flo N, Francis C, Hawea R

High Street Lawn Care Schedule



Week of Aug 4-6
Volunteers Needed.

Week of Aug 11-13
Volunteers Needed

Week of Aug 18-20
Volunteers Needed

Week of Aug 25-27
Volunteers Needed

High Street Cleaning Schedule



Week of Aug 4-6
Volunteers Needed

Week of Aug 11-13
Volunteers Needed

Week of Aug 18-20
Kaneshiro Ohana

Week of Aug 25-27
Volunteers Needed



Childcare during the worship hour for Infants through 4 years old available at the Annex at our High Street Campus.

Note from Pastor Stephen: . . .

Clarice and I will be taking some time off and going on a vacation in August. Taking my place are some men of our church that will serve us all by preaching. Here is the schedule and I am also asking that you hold these men in your prayers:

August 14th Chet Crain - a.m. service
Ken Sakai - p.m. service

August 21st Brandon Kelly - a.m. service
Vince Bagoyo - p.m. service

I will resume preaching on August 28th.

From the desk of Pastor Darren Sarmiento . . .

DISCIPLESHIP IS MORE THAN CONVEYING INFORMATION

by Trevin Wax

<https://blogs.thegospelcoalition.org/trevinwax/2012/02/09/discipleship-is-more-than-conveying-information/>



February 9, 2012

Yesterday, I shared [an article](#) from *The Wall Street Journal* about the loss of apprenticeship in preparing a young person for adulthood. It's interesting that the writer recognized the difference between being book smart and wise with regard to *life*.

I wonder if there aren't some parallels here with how we think of discipleship.

The culture of the first century put a high priority on learning through apprenticeship. You see hints in this direction as you read the New Testament, particularly in how Jesus spoke of His relationship to the Father. But it's also likely that in the early Christians' desire to "make disciples, teaching them to obey all that Christ had commanded them," their vision of "teaching" was somewhat different than what we mean by the term today.

Teaching and the Delivery of Information: Two Camps

To be clear, teaching involves the transfer of important information. The New Testament authors were steeped in the Old Testament, having probably memorized entire books of the Bible. When I say that making disciples and teaching them involves *more* than conveying information, I'm not saying that it is ever *less*.

Camp 1

One of the problems plaguing contemporary evangelicalism today is that pastors and teachers have rightly diagnosed a problem: there is more to teaching than just giving information to people. But the proposed response is often worse than the problem.

Once they recognize the deficiencies of an information-only type of teaching, these leaders begin to downplay the need for verbally teaching people the fundamental doctrines of the faith. The result is a largely atheological ministry that inevitably leans toward a behavior-focused, moralistic message. The good news (powerful, life-transforming information) subtly shifts into good advice ("Just tell me how to live!"). And we wind up with a biblically illiterate mass of well-intentioned Christians being told each week what to do.

Camp 2

In response, other church leaders swing the pendulum back. *We must* teach people and teach them well. The problem, however, is that "teaching" in these churches is often reduced to conveying important biblical information. The assumption is that once we learn the right things, we will live the right way.

Francis Schaeffer, no lightweight when it came to doctrine, warned against this way of thinking:

Most of the Reformation then let the pendulum swing and thought if only the right doctrines were taught that all would be automatically well. Thus, to a large extent, the Reformation concentrated almost exclusively on the "teaching ministry of the Church." In other words almost all the emphasis was placed on teaching the right doctrines. In this I feel the fatal error had already been made. It is not for a moment that we can begin to get anywhere until the right doctrines are taught. But the right doctrines mentally assented to are not an end in themselves, but should only be the vestibule to a personal and loving communion with God...

Teaching right doctrine matters. Discipleship without a strong emphasis on teaching will inevitably be stunted. But there is more than one way to stunt your growth. Just as the first approach reduces discipleship to behavioral modification, the second approach reduces discipleship to information dump.

(continued on page 4)

From the desk of Pastor Darren Sarmiento . . .

DISCIPLESHIP IS MORE THAN CONVEYING INFORMATION

by Trevin Wax (continued from page 3)

Teaching and the Modeling of the Christian Life

The biblical vision of teaching, particularly with its emphasis on apprenticeship, opens up new windows as to how “teaching” needs to include both the delivery of Christian truth *and* the modeling of a Christian lifestyle. Belief and action go together. Schaeffer again:

It seems to me that the real question is what we really believe. It seems to me that we do tend to have two creeds—the one which we believe in our intellectual assent, and then the one which we believe to the extent of acting upon it in faith. More and more it seems to me that the true level of our orthodoxy is measured by this latter standard rather than the former. And more and more it seems to me that there is no such thing as an abstract Christian dogma—that each Christian dogma can be experienced on some level.

So dogma and experience go together. How does that shape our vision of “teaching”? In particular, what does “teaching them” in the Great Commission refer to? Sermons? Bible studies? Lectures? Maybe. But there’s a clue there in the text itself. Teaching them *to obey* all that Christ has commanded. This necessarily involves both modeling *and* verbal teaching.

Without verbal witness we are unable to teach what Christ taught. But teaching to *obey*, in this context, surely demands more than just telling people what to do. This is the language of apprenticeship – a teaching that takes place through doing life together, as a teacher models what this life is supposed to look like. It’s the kind of “teaching” that takes place implicitly when Christians welcome one another into their homes, when Christians do good works together for the community. It’s the kind of life that is *caught*, not *taught*. Or better said, it’s taught *through* doing life together, inviting people to follow us as we follow Christ.

That’s why in conversations about the mission of the church, making a sharp distinction between representing and proclaiming Christ introduces more problems than it solves. Making disciples is the mission of the church, yes, but the teaching aspect of this process is more than delivering the gospel verbally and teaching the Bible verbally to new Christians. It is certainly never less, which is what the pastors in Camp 2 instinctively and rightly realize. But neither can it be *just* this.

David Mathis asks:

Does “disciple all nations” not call to mind how Jesus himself “discipled” his men? They were, after all, his “disciples.” And when they heard him say, “disciple all nations,” would they not think this discipleship is what he did with them – investing prolonged, real-life, day-in, day-out, intentional time with younger believers in order to bring them to maturity as well as model for them how to *disciple* others in the same way?

The answer, of course, is yes! Discipleship and teaching must mean more than conveying true information.

Bottom Line

Apprenticeship is serious business. Never downplay the importance of sermons, theological education, and deep Bible study. Just make sure you match all of these with doing life together, modeling a new way of being human, inviting people to come alongside of us and learn what it means to follow Jesus – not merely by what we tell them but also by how we live.

* * * * *



Trevin Wax is managing editor of [The Gospel Project](#) at LifeWay Christian Resources, husband to Corina, father to Timothy, Julia, and David.



July 2106

The Woodies' Whereabouts



This month 2 years ago was full of joy and the beginnings of a new adventure. July 5th marked 2 years of marriage for Rachael and I! What an adventure it has been thus far! Thank you all for your prayers and encouragement as we continue to grow in our marriage and fulfill the Great Commission by reaching college students for Christ together!

We had the opportunity to volunteer with the Evangelism Team at Night Vision (NV) last week. NV is a Christian music festival where artists, volunteers, & Praise Him Ministries work together with the mission of creating a place for people to hear the Gospel. Rachael & I spent the time we were there getting into conversations with people about Christ. God sure did work! *There were 296 decisions to receive Jesus & 174 recommitted to following Him!* It brings us much joy & gratitude to be in ministry reaching people for Christ!



Student Highlight

Summer can be difficult for students to grow in their faith. This is true for Jay (left in picture) but he is persevering by drawing near to God in the Word. This summer, God has given Jay a desire to understand & live out the Great Commission. He asked me if I would help him understand biblical discipleship. We have been talking, encouraging, and praying with each other & focusing more on God's heart for the lost through the context of discipleship. It amazes me how God is working in Jay's heart and what a blessing it is to be a part of it!



Please Pray for:

all those who accepted Christ at NV, that they will grow strong in their faith. For our upcoming staff conference & next year's planning. For Jay as he grows in biblical discipleship. For our 3rd year of marriage to be a light and encouragement for others.

Thank you!

Dakota & Rachael

| Dakota & Rachael Woodie | 970-596-8692 | 808-214-3977 | woodie.mpm@gmail.com | TheWoodies.weebly.com | Our Address: 21 Sierra Ave. Durango, CO 81303 |

MISSIONAL OPPORTUNITIES



On Mission For Christ . . .

This October 7-17, a mission team will be travelling to Samar,

Bohol and Luzon to continue on mission for Christ. Mission ministries will include medical, evangelism and prayer walking at villages. The mission team will also help with discipleship training at the newly built worship center in Luzon. Won't you pray about joining us on mission?

If God is speaking to you, please contact Vince Bagoyo (808) 357-3842.

NAMB Missionary Spotlight:



Bobby and Kelli HIGGINBOTHAM

Church Planter
The Pathway
2522 N. Proctor St., #245
Tacoma, WA 98406
bobby@thepathwaytacoma.com
ThePathwayTacoma.com

Pray that The Pathway would see Holy Spirit-empowered reproduction in five specific areas: disciples, leaders, intentional communities, worship gatherings and churches.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, SBC Annual Church Profile, Compiled by the NAMB Center for Missional Research.

North American Mission Board

WEST

Population
75,454,825

SBC Congregations
4,352

SBC Church to Population Ratio
1 to 15,515

SBC Chaplain Spotlight:



SBC Chaplaincy

Southern Baptist Convention



Chaplain (Captain) Joon Seop Ahn

U.S. ARMY

namb.net/contactachaplain
Based: Fort Hood, Texas
Wife: Seong Mi Ahn

Pray for my wife, Seong Mi, as she continues to adjust to life after two difficult surgeries five years ago.

NORTH AMERICAN MISSION BOARD



International Mission Board

Connecting Through Prayer . . .

Prayer request from a Missionary Kid:

Pray for rain in the Horn of Africa, for people's crops and animals. These things are their life and they get milk and different things from their animals. They also use them for transportation and to carry things on their backs when they are moving from place to place. When I visited a village a few weeks ago with my dad I realized that they need water for cooking and for them and their animals to stay alive. I gave a picture and crayons to a girl there. She had a big smile on her face and I am praying that she will learn about Jesus, believe and tell others about Him. *D, age 9 (Northern African and Middle Eastern peoples)*



ANNOUNCEMENTS




call Church Office
244-0865



Church Cleaning Ministry
call Church Office
244-0865



Lawn Care Ministry
Pastor Darren
757-1651



CRISIS CARE MINISTRY
Pastor Stephen
419-8100



Handyman Ministry
Andy Sniffen
264-0526



Malama Pregnancy Center of Maui
280-5810
Joywright.mpcmaui@gmail.com

“Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving”
Colossians 4:2 (ESV)

Here are opportunities to gather together in prayer

Sunday: 6 am
(Conference Room)

Monday: 6:30 pm
(Annex)

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

Sunday Schedule

6:00 am Prayer Meeting (Conference Room)	10:30 am Sunday School (Children & Youth-High St Property; Adults- Pastor's study)
6:30 am Set-up	6:00 pm Evening Service (High St Property)
9:00 am Worship Service (Childcare for Birth - 4 years at High St Annex)	

Valley Isle Fellowship Calendar

July 2016

- 31 6 am - Prayer Time @ Conference Room
 9 am - Worship Service
 - Observance of Lord's Supper
 10:30 am - Sunday School at High St Property
 - Adult Sunday School @ Pastor's Study
 6 pm - Evening Worship/Study

August 2016

- 7 6 am - Prayer Time @ Conference Room
 9 am - Worship Service
 10:30 am - Sunday School at High St Property
 - Adult Sunday School @ Pastor's Study
 12 noon - Trustees Meeting
 6 pm - Evening Worship/Study
- 8 6:30 pm - Prayer Meeting @ Annex
- 9-16 *Pastor Stephen on vacation*
- 10 6:30 pm - Youth Group "Fuel" @ Sanctuary
- 14 6 am - Prayer Time @ Conference Room

- 9 am - Worship Service - Chet Crain
 10:30 am - Sunday School at High St Property
 - Adult Sunday School @ Pastor's Study

6 pm - Evening Worship/Study - Ken Sakai

15 6:30 pm - Prayer Meeting @ Annex

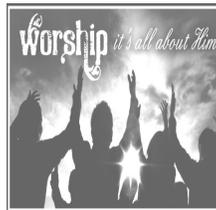
17 6:30 pm - Youth Group "Fuel" @ Sanctuary

- 21 6 am - Prayer Time @ Conference Room
 9 am - Worship Service - Brandon Kelly
 10:30 am - Sunday School at High St Property
 - Adult Sunday School @ Pastor's Study

6 pm - Evening Worship/Study - Vince Bagoyo

22 6:30 pm - Prayer Meeting @ Annex

24 6:30 pm - Youth Group "Fuel" @ Sanctuary



Today's Worship Songs

I Will Boast

Blessed Be Your Name

Good Good Father

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;
 Adults at Pastor's Study)

Senior Pastor

Stephen Kaneshiro

Cell: (808) 419-8100

Email: icastephen@gmail.com

SUNDAY EVENING SERVICE

VIF Church Sanctuary

6:00 pm



www.facebook.com/valleyislefellowship



@VIFMaui

Associate Pastor

Darren Sarmiento

Cell: (808) 757-1651

Email: darrenvif@hawaii.rr.com

Jesus Models a Balanced Life

Luke 14:1-24

Pastor Stephen Kaneshiro

I. Jesus Models _____ . – Luke 14:1-6

A. He reaches out to _____ .

B. The Sabbath – a day to _____ .

1. Not a day of _____ .

2. A day full of _____ and _____ to the Lord.

3. A day of _____ .

II. Jesus Models _____ . – Luke 14:7-14

A. Vying for seats of _____ and _____ .

B. The _____ of being _____ rather than the _____ of being _____ .

C. Work to lift up the _____ and the _____ .

III. Jesus Emphasizes _____ . – Luke 14:15-24

A. A Great Banquet is _____ .

B. _____ are made.

C. All is ready & the _____ to come is _____ .

D. _____ are made.

E. A new _____ is made.

F. The old invitation is _____ .

Sermon in a Sentence:

_____ Act with _____ in a _____ Manner.