

09.08.13

September | 2013

Where is our weekly bulletin?

“New, challenging, and exciting things...”

Dear People of VIF.

I believe a page is turning in the history of Valley Isle Fellowship. New, challenging, and exciting things are on us

and ahead of us as we move forward. I know you must be asking “Where is our Weekly Bulletin?” After spending time in prayer over this past summer, I have decided to move to having a “Weekly Newsletter” to communicate with you all of the things that are going on in the

life and ministry of VIF. This Newsletter is intended to inform, inspire, and educate you with pertinent and concise articles written by our staff, volunteers, and other who can contribute to this purpose. Each week there will be new content that we are praying will enrich your walk with Jesus Christ.



the list. Prayer is so important and we desire you to be intimately involved in all that God is doing in this vital area.

Thank you for your faithfulness to the Lord and to VIF. Let us continue to strive together to be all that God desires us to be. God bless you all.

Yours in Christ,
Stephen Kaneshiro

IN THIS Issue

- 1 Where is our weekly bulletin?
- 2 Changing Your Perspective on Suffering
- 3 Sermon: “Against All Odds”
- 4 Something To Ponder
- 5 Water in Waikapu

The challenge of making this “Weekly Newsletter” will mainly fall on the shoulders of our new Church Secretary, Keri Kiesling. She began work this week and is already making a big difference. When you call the office or drop by the church, please stop in and welcome her to Valley Isle Fellowship. Please pray that she will be able to do all that God is placing before her to help VIF become the Church that God desires us to be.

Finally, on a very serious matter, please be in prayer for each other. There are many who are going through some very serious trials and challenges. If you are not receiving the VIF Weekly Email Prayer Requests, you can sign up by submitting your email address on the yellow “Communication Card,” please be sure to legibly print so that we can get you on

Valley Isle Fellowship

473 S High St • PO Box 886

Wailuku, HI 96793

808.244.0865 (ofc) • 808.249-0235 (fax)

vifoffice@hawaii.rr.com

www.vifmaui.com

Changing Your Perspective on Suffering

Seeing through the lense of a glorious eternity (Romans 8:18-25)

Neil Cole - Church As A living System



At a time when the Gospel needs to be shared openly, we are at times fearful or hesitant. I would like to encourage us to consider being a farmer who plants seeds and harvests. You probably know the parable of the farmer scattering, but I would like you to watch this 16 minute video to gain better insight and hope that it helps you grow in following The Lord. Go to YouTube and type in "Neil Cole—Church As A Living System."

Pastor Darren

The sufferings and trials that humanity goes through often become the lenses by which we see the world. It colors every other experience we have. For many, it feels as if we cannot escape the scars of our past or present suffering because our trials and suffering are consistently tempering how we see every relationship, experience and possession.



Paul saw his suffering through a future hope.

Yet Paul in Romans 8:18-25 sees the world through a different lens. He did not allow past or present suffering determine how he saw his life or God. He determined that hope for a glorious eternity would be the thing in which he saw his present life, whether good or bad. He did not see current suffering through a "woe is me because my suffering". He saw his current suffering through a future hope. He determined that he would see the momentary afflictions of today through the hope of 5,000 years in the future, while dwelling in heaven, looking back at the present affliction and recognizing God's grace, mercy and love in the momentary. Think about that, think about how momentary

our present suffering will look like 5,000 years from now in the presence of God Almighty where love, joy, peace, grace, and many more attributes of God are experienced by us perfectly as we worship Jesus Christ. This desire to see the world through our promised future is called hope. We are not the only ones hoping for the future to be our present but all of creation groans in anticipation of that day. May this hope be yours today. May you strive to put on hope and run from despair. May you dwell on this hope today. May you ask for patience and may this hope grant you peace amidst stormy waters. God bless.

Pastor Jeremy

"May this hope be yours today. May you strive to put on hope and run from despair. May you dwell on this hope today. May you ask for patience and may this hope grant you peace amidst stormy waters."



Notes:

“Against All Odds”

John 6:1-21 (NLT)

1. Jesus feeds five thousand.
(John 6:1-13)
 - a. Jesus goes against...
 - i. Man's _____.
 - ii. All _____.
2. Jesus walks on water.
(John 6:16-21)
 - a. When all seems hopeless...
 - i. You can always
count on _____.
 - ii. You can have full
_____ in him.
3. Closing: John 6:14-15
 - a. Against All Odds, Jesus
_____!

If you would like a CD Copy of today's message, call the church office. The cost is \$1 per CD. You may also listen and/or download the message from our website at www.vifmaui.com for free!

Something to ponder...

Prayer: A Journey To The Heart Of God



³⁷ Jesus replied, "You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind. ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' ⁴⁰ The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments."

Matthew 22:37-40 (NLT)

This passage of Scripture is called "The Greatest Commandment." Therefore, does it make sense to you that since the Greatest Commandment is for us to love the Lord our God with all of our heart, soul, and mind, that PRAYER should cause us to love God with all of our heart, soul, and mind? Since prayer is communicating with God, communicating with Him should first and foremost cause us to fall more deeply in love with the Lord. Prayer should be focused on loving God rather than asking God. Prayer should also be focused on loving God rather than complaining to God. In prayer, we can talk intimately and personally with God. Therefore, prayer is one of the best ways to fall more deeply in love with the Lord.

The next time you go to the Lord in prayer, spend some time just loving Him. Spend time seeking for ways to effectively communicate your love for Him. Thanksgiving, Praise, and Adoration can all be ways of expressing your love for Him. He has done so much for us that expressing our love for Him should be one of the easiest things to do. When we become self-centered, this is when it becomes so difficult to love and to express our love for the Lord. When we are Christ centered, our love for the Lord will flow like the mighty Amazon River. Take time daily to express your love for your Lord.

Water in Waikapu Status of the Water Project on Kokololio Street

As you already know, in order to build our church on our Waikapu property, we have to build a very expensive water system that will give us enough water flow and pressure to meet Maui County's requirements for Fire Suppression needs. We presented a construction plan to the Water Department that would meet these requirements along Kokololio Street in the public right of way. This would cost us around \$325,000 in addition to the monies needed to build the church, but we believe we can handle this additional cost with the sale of our High Street properties. However, the Water Department has rejected these plans and is saying that we need to place the water system under Kokololio Street. This would mean that we would have to dig up Kokololio from the top to the bottom. This will cost much more and there is a possibility that we might not be able to get the approval of the Waikapu Gardens Association, which owns the road. We need all of you to be praying that we will be able to see what God's desire is for dealing with this situation. He is in control and we want to follow his leading and direction.

Secondly, on July 14th, we voted in our Special Called Business meeting to proceed with selling our High Street properties. However, with this development, I have chosen to delay this sale until we resolve this water issue.



However, I have appointed Dick Drayson, Michael Sena, & Darren Sarmiento to be our negotiating team to do all of the leg work in helping me to select a Real Estate Broker, an Attorney, and a CPA. They will work with the Broker on getting the best offer for our property. Please pray for Dick (who is the chairman of the team), Michael and Darren as they have volunteered to carry out this very important task for The Lord and VIF. They will begin this work as soon as we get a firm handle on the water system project.

Finally, as of Monday, September 2nd (Labor Day), we were finally able to get a water meter and the flow of water on our property, after actively working on getting this in place for at least 3 years, Praise the Lord! His mercies are great and new every morning! Thank you to all of you who came out and labored on Labor Day to make this happen.

God bless you all.

Stephen Kaneshiro

Announcements

2/3 World Ministry Yard Sale – On Saturday, September 28, we will have a joint yard sale with 2/3 World Ministries on the annex yard. This is an opportunity for you to clean out that closet and make a donation to the Lord's work. 2/3 of the profits will go to 2/3 World Ministries and 1/3 of the profits will be used for our development program.

Special Offerings for September 2013 - During this month of September, we will have the privilege of taking up two special offerings. The first is the annual Sue Nishikawa State Missions Offering. The funds that are raised for this offering will go to the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention in carrying out missions programs throughout the HPBC. We want to encourage you to pray and give as the Lord leads you to. The second offering (Sept. 22) is a one-time offering to the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association in order to help in carrying out the My Hope for America with Billy Graham evangelistic outreach. This outreach has the potential to be one of the most significant outreaches that the church in America has ever had the opportunity to be a part of, so we want you to pray earnestly for this outreach and to give financially as the Lord leads you to.

Youth Fundraiser – Interested in supporting the Youth Ministry and helping the environment? The Youth are collecting empty ink cartridges or toners from your computer printer for recycling to support their various activities. You may drop off your empty cartridges in the lime green plastic bin by the door in the sanctuary.

Save the Date! – We will be having a baby shower for Keri Kiesling on Saturday, October 12th at 11am. More details to follow.

New Church Office Hours – Effective since September 3rd, church office hours are now from 8 a.m. to noon and 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Senior Pastor
Stephen Kaneshiro
808.419.8100 (c)
icastephen@gmail.com

Pastor of Worship
Darren Sarmiento
808.757.1651 (c)
darrenvif@hawaii.rr.com

Pastor of Discipleship
Jeremy Kaneshiro
808.280-2780 (c)
vifjeremy@gmail.com