

09.29.13

September | 2013

Clearing the Confusion, Part 2 of 3

Pastor Stephen Kaneshiro, continuation from 09.22.13

So, How Do We Get There & What Does This Look Like?

1. Preaching & Teaching you the Word of God (The Bible). As your pastor, I am responsible for teaching and preaching the whole counsel of God's Word. This is why I and the other

pastors have been preaching Chapter by Chapter and Verse by Verse. We desire that you know the Word of God so that you can obey the Word of God. The Word of God both challenges and confronts us. It challenges us to live in faith and confronts us when we don't. It challenges us to live for the glory of God and confronts us

when we don't. It challenges us to live immersed in His power and confronts us when we don't. Most of all, it challenges us to love Him with all of our heart, mind, and soul and challenges us when we don't.

2. The Great Commandment and The Great Commission challenge us all to live in a very specific way for His Glory. The Great Commandment says, Matthew 22:37-40 (NLT) ³⁷Jesus replied, "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind."³⁸This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'⁴⁰The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments." The Great Commission says, Matthew 28:18-20 (NLT) ¹⁸Jesus came and told his disciples, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. ²⁰Teach 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."

A. The Great Commandment commands us to love the Lord our God Supremely. This means to love Him above all other

and all things. We are then commanded to love each other in the same way. This kind of love and this kind of focus on love is what sets the stage for everything else to take place in our life of love and service to the Lord. If we get this wrong, then everything else will fail. That is why verse 40 says that "The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these 2 commandments." We have to get loving God right!

B. The Great Commission commands us to go and make disciples of the whole world, starting from right here. This calls us to witness, baptize, and disciple them to obey all of God's Word.

C. For so many years we have thought that witnessing and discipling are options that we could obey if we wanted to, but we could still be good Christians if we just love the Lord like Matthew 22:37-40 said to do. However, let me ask you a question. How can we say that we love the Lord if we disobey His commands? The Great Commission was given just before Jesus returned to heaven after his resurrection. Don't you think that His last command before His return is a very important command? These were His last words and thoughts to His disciples. Therefore, witnessing and discipling are actually one command, not two. Also, this was addressed to all Christians and not just to the apostles. Therefore, this is a command that is addressed to you and me.

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Seeing is Believing? 2 Corinthians 5:7 (NIV)

Remember when you were a child, and you played games like pin the tail on the donkey and Piñata? Both games involved being blindfolded with an objective of either trying to see if you could pin the tail on the donkey or hitting the piñata to the point that you could get the candy out of it.

Is it the same in our walk with the Lord and our relationship with Christ? Are we blindfolded when following Jesus?

In 2 Corinthians 5:7, the Apostle Paul said, "We live by faith, not by sight". What Paul is saying is that he lives by faith in the one in whom he believes in, Jesus, and not by what he can physically see. In fact, Paul's service, strength and direction all came from believing in Jesus and what was in store for him in the future, while serving The Lord and people in the present.

He said at one time that the things he sees are temporal, but things he cannot see, but know, are eternal. Jesus once said, "Those of you who can now see are blind, but those who are blind now can see" (Paraphrase). People have said, "That if I can only see Jesus or hear Him, then I will follow."

We are going through the book of John in our sermons on Sunday mornings. What people say today is what actually went on with Jesus and the people in the book of John. They all see Jesus and hear Jesus but no one believes Him or in Him. In Ephesians 2:8 it says, "For it is by grace you have been saved, *through faith*—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God." We are saved by Jesus because we know and believe what He did for us to be true. Think about the song, "Amazing Grace." A line in the song says, "...Was blind but now I see." He is saying that he was spiritually blind but now he can see. My heart and prayer for us is that we will continue to love, serve and honor The Lord by our *faith in him* and *never* by our physical sight.

Pastor Darren Sarmiento

"And I give myself as a holy sacrifice for them so they can be made holy by your truth."

Clearing the Confusion, Part 2 of 3

continuation from page 1

Once we all are moving in the above direction, then the Lord will be bringing us all into a John 17 kind of unity. John 17:14-23 (NLT) ¹⁴I have given them your word. And the world hates them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁵I'm not asking you to take them out of the world, but to keep them safe from the evil one. ¹⁶They do not belong to this world any more than I do. ¹⁷Make them holy by your truth; teach them your word, which is truth. ¹⁸Just as you sent me into the world, I am sending them into the world. ¹⁹And I give myself as a holy sacrifice for them so they can be made holy by your truth. ²⁰I am praying not only for these disciples but also for all who will ever believe in me through their message. ²¹I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one—as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me. ²²I have given them the glory you gave me, so they may be one as we are one. ²³I am in them and you are in me. May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that you sent me and that you love them as much as you love me.

This kind of unity is unity that is bonded and embolden in the trials and challenges of life. Jesus does not pray that we would have these trials taken away but rather that these trials would emphasize to the world how much we love each other and especially how much we love the Lord. These trials will be used of the Lord to sharpen and make effective our witness to the world. This kind of love for the Lord and for each other will demonstrate itself in loving the church and ministering to each other. The church is the fellowship of a people in love with the Lord and in love with each other. Therefore, we will see a people giving loving sacrifice to the church and to each other so that God would be glorified.

To be continued on 10.06.13



Notes:

“Resemblance”

John 7:1-24 (NLT)

1. Jesus' brothers...

- a. Didn't _____ Jesus.
- b. Didn't reach the point of _____.
- c. Are like the _____.

2. Jesus' time had not yet come.

- a. He was on the Father's _____.
- b. He was _____ by the world.
- c. He _____ truth against evil.
- d. He seeks to _____ God.

Closing: Who do you

_____?

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!

The Gap Between Knowledge and Faith

Genesis 32



1. Jacob knew God promised _____ things (vs. 9-12)
 - a. _____ for him and his _____ (28:13)
 - b. _____ offspring (28:14)
 - c. The Lord's _____ (28:15)
2. God calls Jacob back to the _____ land (31:1-3, 32:9)
3. Jacob has to _____ the _____ of the past just outside of the promised land(31:1-8)
4. Jacob is afraid of _____ (31:11)
5. Jacob struggles with trusting God's _____ (31:1-21)

NOTES:

A large, empty gray rectangular area provided for taking notes.

Moving in a NEW Direction

Sunday Nights to move in a NEW Direction

After a season of much prayer and discussion, your Pastoral staff is being lead in a new direction for our Sunday Evening Services. We will be ending our study through the book of Genesis and will begin to address specific areas that God is leading Valley Isle Fellowship into. Pastor Darren will lead off starting next Sunday, October 6th, with a message entitled "Building a People of Character." Pastor Jeremy will follow on October 13th with "Building a Church that Glorifies the Lord." Pastor Stephen will continue these themes on October 20th with "Building a Church for the Generations & for the Cultures." Pastor Darren will then conclude this series on October 27th with "Building a Church of Prayer."

Starting in November and continuing on through December, we will be focusing in on Prayer. The following themes will be followed: "Prayer that Changes the World," "Prayer that Revives the Soul," "Prayer that Exalts Jesus," "Prayer that Protects the Church," "Prayer for Those Who Will be Saved," "A Prayer for Valley Isle Fellowship," and "A Prayer for Maui County."

We want to encourage all of you to attend and participate as we explore and visualize where God is leading us. David Platt is noted as saying in one of his books, "You can't become what you cannot see." Our prayer is the vision of where Valley Isle Fellowship is heading will become so clear that there will be unity in moving against the powers of darkness and exciting joy in bringing glory and honor to the Lord Jesus Christ.

God bless you all as you move on to a maturity in Christ that will bring the lost into the His saving grace and the saved into a maturity that brings honor

Baby Shower for Keri (Kaneshiro) Kiesling

WHEN: Saturday, October 12th
WHERE: Church Sanctuary (473 S High St)
TIME: 11am -- finish
ACTIVITIES: Prayer, Devotional, Singing &
Games

POTLUCK FEAST

RSVP: Helen Yoshizawa @ 242-9113
So we know how many tables to set-up.



Calling all women!
Saturday, October 12th
Pukalani Baptist Church
9am-130pm



Two Thirds World Ministry Fun Run

Saturday, October 19th
Check-in time: 5am
Start time: 530am

Mission Trip

November 2nd - 13th

We are ON MISSION FOR CHRIST by bulding
leaders and shaping the future.

Legend

- Wailuku El
- ⬡ High St Property
- Other Location

Calendar

September

- 29**Sun ■ 8am Service : Pastor Darren - John 7:1-24
 ■ 945am Service : Pastor Darren - John 7:1-24
 ⬡ 6pm Service : Pastor Jeremy - Genesis 32:1-21

30Mon

October

1Tues

- 2**Wed ⬡ 630pm: Youth Group - Sanctuary
 ⬡ 7pm: Prayer Meeting in Annex

3Thurs

4Fri

5Sat

- 6**Sun ■ 8am Service : Pastor Jeremy - John 7:25-39
 ■ 945am Service : Pastor Jeremy - John 7:25-39
 ⬡ 6pm Service : Pastor Darren - Building a People of Character

7Mon

8Tues

- 9**Wed ⬡ 630pm: Youth Group - Sanctuary
 ⬡ 7pm: Prayer Meeting in Annex

10Thurs

11Fri

- 12**Sat ○ 930-130pm: Marriage Matters @ PBC
 ⬡ 11am: Keri (Kaneshiro) Kiesling Baby Shower

- 13**Sun ■ 8am Service : Pastor Stephen - John 7:40-53
 ■ 945am Service : Pastor Stephen - John 7:40-53
 ⬡ 6pm Service : Pastor Jeremy - Building a Church That Glorifies The Lord

14Mon

15Tues

- 16**Wed ⬡ 630pm: Youth Group - Sanctuary
 ⬡ 7pm: Prayer Meeting in Annex

17Thurs

18Fri

- 19**Sat ⬡ 2/3 World Fun Run: Check-in at 5am

- 20**Sun ■ 8am Service : Pastor Darren - John 8:1-11
 ■ 945am Service : Pastor Darren - John 8:1-11
 ⬡ 6pm Service : Pastor Darren - Building a Church for the Generations & for the Cultures

21Mon

22Tues

- 23**Wed ⬡ 630pm: Youth Group - Sanctuary
 ⬡ 7pm: Prayer Meeting in Annex

24Thurs

25Fri

25Fri

- 27**Sun ■ 8am Service : Pastor Jeremy - John 8:12-30
 ■ 945am Service : Pastor Jeremy - John 8:12-30
 ⬡ 6pm Service : Pastor Darren - Building a Church of Prayer

28Mon

29Tues

- 30**Wed ⬡ 630pm: Youth Group - Sanctuary
 ⬡ 7pm: Prayer Meeting in Annex

Announcements

Calling All Women for Marriage Matters - As Christians we believe that marriage matters; however, our culture isn't so sure. As the Body of Christ we want to proclaim in word and deed that marriage still matters. Therefore, women of all ages and backgrounds are warmly invited to join us at Pukalani Baptist Church on *Saturday, October 12 from 9-1:30* for a time of encouragement and inspiration, worship and training, food and fun.

Please invite a neighbor, relative, or colleague to come and join us. All women are welcome: married, single, divorced, separated, and widowed. There's no cost for lunch and you'll still have time afterwards for Saturday chores and shopping. Make it a priority, write it on your calendar, and bring someone with you. Two women from Pukalani Baptist will be sharing as well as your very own Wanda-Jeanne Blando. Call Laura Newell, of Pukalanai Baptist, with questions: 572-7968 or 572-6890.

Two Thirds World Network will be holding a Fun Run on Saturday, October 19. Runners/walkers will check in starting at 5am at Valley Isle (Fun Run starts at 530am) and make their way to Kihei's Kalepolepo Park - a total of 10 miles. If you would like to participate, sponsor a participant, or if you would simply like more information, please visit the website: <http://twothirdsworld.org> or contact: Grace Motonaga (email: jesuslives2day@mac.com or cell: (808) 357-4553. We are ON MISSION FOR CHRIST by building leaders and shaping the future. Also, please be in prayer if God is calling you to be on mission for Him.

Two Thirds World Mission Trip to the Philippines will be November 2nd - 13th. The focus will be on assisting the flood victims. They will be sharing the Gospel through Medical Missions & Children's Outreach
Needs: Water filtration systems, multi-vitamins (all ages), cold/fever remedies, general hygiene items
We are ON MISSION FOR CHRIST by building leaders and shaping the future.
For more information, please visit our website: <http://twothirdsworld.org> or contact Grace Motonaga (cell: 357-4553 or email: jesuslives2day@mac.com)

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.

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