

10.27.13

October | 2013

"Same-Sex Marriage" Has Also Been A Blessing

These past 2 weeks have been challenging times, but also a time of blessing. It has been challenging because this is an issue that whenever we publically voice a Biblical view on Homosexuality, or any aspect of it, we are immediately looked upon as people of hate. That is

very far from the truth. We know that any action or life-style that is against the Word of God has and will continue to put people into great danger. Homosexuality, besides being against the Word of God, is a very dangerous life-style. The medical risks are enormous.

Therefore, is it very loving to say to a person (actively and/or passively) to go right ahead with that dangerous act or life-style? If someone is driving down a road where there is a collapsed bridge and you know that person is driving to their

destruction, would it be very loving of you to do nothing and go along your merry way? I believe that to do nothing in these situations is very hateful, especially when we know of the destruction that is ahead of them.

Thus, to have had to be a part of crafting a message and delivering that message has been very challenging to me. I have never been a part of a newspaper add and I have never written a "letter to the editor" before. I have also never gone to talk with our politicians before. So all of this has been challenging.

However, the most challenging aspect of all of this was how the Lord convicted me of my failure to lead the churches that I have pastored to be a righteous force in our communities. I have solidly rejected my role and the church's role in the importance of politics. This was a common failure because over these past few weeks, I have heard many other pastors confess this same failure.

This is where the "Blessings" began to appear. First of all, with that conviction there had to come a time of confession and repentance. Then to experience God's forgiveness was like being given another chance to get it right. It is so refreshing to experience God's forgiveness rather than His wrath. God's love and grace are truly amazing!!!

Then to meet and have fellowship with the other pastors, has been so enriching. To reconnect with many of these men of God

has encouraged me and strengthen me in knowing that I am not alone in this battle. For too long, I have isolated myself from this fellowship of frail, yet Godly men. It is also exciting to see that growing out of this is the body of Christ coming together for a common cause. To see our churches, the Baptist, the Assemblies of God and other Pentecostal churches, Kahului Union Church, and others all coming together in unity is very exciting.

The biggest blessing of all is that because I have been given another chance, The Lord has also shown me that Valley Isle Fellowship has a second chance. This means that we can never again let happen what has happened to us over the last 15-20 years. We need to rise up, be broken before the Lord, be cleansed by His precious blood, and filled with His Holy Spirit so that we can become the army that He desires us to be. An army that will act in loving obedience to every command that the Lord would give. An army that will stand in the character of Jesus in the midst of the darkest battle. An army that would bring glory and honor to the Lord by winning multitudes to Jesus Christ and seeing them all discipled into Christ-likeness.

As God moves in our midst, I know that we will not be perfect people. We will still miss it as we try to do the will of God but miss it by doing it out of the will of God. This is exactly what I did last Sunday. Knowing that it is the will

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When You've Done All that You Can, What's Next?

I. We wrestle not against _____ and _____. - *Ephesians 6: 10-12*

- A. We need to be strong in the _____.
- B. We need to fight the battle _____.
- C. Our real enemies are:
 - 1. _____ and _____ of the unseen world
 - 2. _____ in this dark world
 - 3. _____ in heavenly places

II. True _____ brings us to complete _____ in the Lord. - *1 Samuel 7:1-14*

- A. The battle belongs to the _____.
- B. _____ and _____ to the Lord are vital in the battle.
- C. Even as the enemy is about to attack, don't leave the _____ of the _____.
- D. Don't let _____ rule you, but finish your business with the _____.
- E. The results of a broken and obedient life unto the Lord are _____.

III. _____ - *Psalms 51:17*

- A. Broken over _____.
- B. _____ - _____ that cries for a return to _____.
- C. Sets up God's _____, _____, and _____.
- D. Be 1 Corinthians 2 people. - **1 Corinthians 2:3-5**

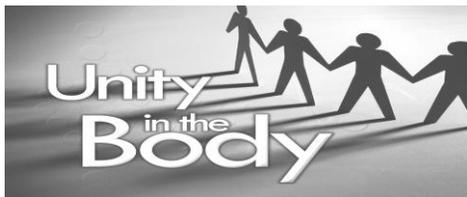
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of God to lead Valley Isle Fellowship into brokenness before The Lord, I called for a Solemn Assembly before preparing you for it. I simply ran ahead of God and blew it! I know that God still wants us to enter into a Solemn Assembly, but I will prepare you for it. A Solemn Assembly is a time where the whole church gets broken before The Lord because of personal and cooperate sin. It is not another prayer meeting. This is a time when Sovereign and Holy God comes to meet with us. I will prepare you for this before calling you into a Solemn Assembly.

If it were not for this "Marriage Equality" issue that has come down upon us, I might have missed the Lord's convictions on my failures. I would have continued guiding you down a good path, but not the best path. **Romans 8:28 (NLT)** *28 And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.* Many times I do not think of everything before taking action. However, I am so glad that God knows everything and has, is, and always will be working so that His glory will come through "in spite" of me. I am praying that I will get better and better at this. However, until I can arrive at the point that I can bring glory and honor to The Lord "because of me," I am so glad that He is able to bring glory and honor to Himself, "in spite of me." Bless His Holy name.

When "Blessings from The Lord" come, they can come in the most unpredictable ways. Keep on looking for the blessings, instead of looking for the curses. God bless you all as you strive to be all that God desires.

Yours in Christ,
Stephen Kaneshiro



My Hope With Billy Graham

"My Hope for America" with Billy Graham is right upon us. November 3rd-9th are the dates for this effort with November 10th as the Report Sunday. Please be in prayer that God will ignite America into a full blown revival. Our church has very small involvement but we are praying that the impact will be glorious.

"My Hope" is a project where we will invite our friends, relatives, and acquaintances into our homes to view a half hour program produced by the Billy Graham Evangelistic Crusade. This program will include a message by Billy Graham and two powerful testimonies. Then we will share what God has done personally for us. Finally, we will give those in our home the opportunity to invite Jesus Christ into their lives as the Lord, Master, and Savior of their lives. For those that respond to this saving message, we will give you the opportunity to disciple them with our newly revamped discipleship piece. Pastor Jeremy has rewritten parts of T4T and combined it with Multiply into a very powerful piece that should catapult these new believers into a dynamic walk with the Lord Jesus Christ.

For the few of you who have signed up to be a host family, we have your materials and your DVD ready for you. Please begin inviting people to your home, sometime during the week of November 3rd-9th. Please call Keri in our office to get all of your materials.

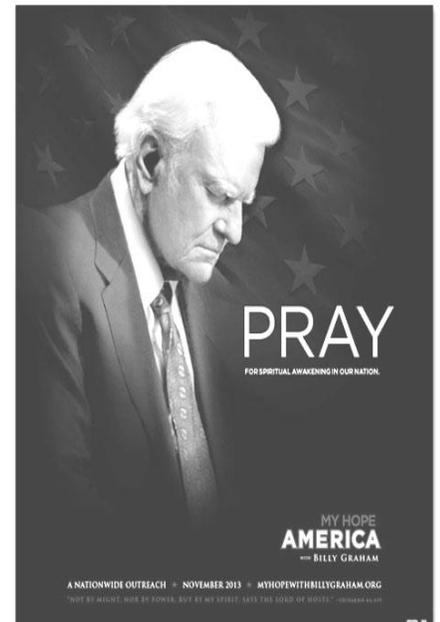
For those who did not sign up but are feeling God's call on you to participate, it is not too late. If you will invite people to your home during that week, we will do our best to get all of the materials that you need. This is an opportunity that you should not miss. You have the potential of being involved on the ground floor of the beginning of a national revival. This is too exciting not to be a part of it. God bless you all.

By the way, on Saturday Night November 9th at 8:30 on the ABC Network, this program (that we have the DVD for) will be broadcasted nationwide. Please be in

prayer that God will use this for His Kingdom's glory!

Program broadcasting
Thursday, November 7th at
2:30pm on channel 51 (island of
Maui)

for more broadcast listings, go
to
<http://watchbillygraham.com/?#tv-listings>



**"Not by might,
nor by power,
but by my
Spirit, says the
LORD of
hosts."**

Zechariah 4:6 (ESV)

To Sum Up The Christian Life

Sometimes I wonder if we really see the big picture in what it means to live life for Christ. There is so much to take in and understand, that it makes it hard to understand it all at times. There is so much to know about God, Jesus, Holy Spirit, the Bible, the Church, the devil, eternal life, sin, salvation, sacrifice, servant hood, worship, truth, heaven, earth, faith, forgiveness, grace, mercy, works, disciples, redeemed, Savior, judgment, the Gospel and the list goes on.

There are Christians that have differing viewpoints and opinions and at times it seems as though they are no different from the world. So the question is, do you know and understand the Christian Life? I am going to sum up the Christian life in practical day to day life.

Today, I have three goals that I have set in my life to achieve, they are the Greatest commandment¹, the Gospel² and the Great Commission³. When I live to achieve these goals, it will ultimately lead to glorifying God in everything I do and say⁴. The reason why I structured my goals this way is because it helps me to categorize everything there is to know about living life for God under these three goals and allows me to see the bigger picture and puts things into perspective.

For example, sin would go under the Gospel. The Gospel takes away sin. Jesus gave his life for the forgiveness of our sins. Eternal life would go under the Greatest Commandment. I am going to have a relationship with God the Father and his Son, Jesus forever. Encourage, that would go under the Great Commission which is to make disciples and teach them everything you've been taught to obey.

Everything in the Bible can be attached to these three goals. By doing it like this, it makes it simple for me to understand and reminds me of the bigger picture to glorify God with my life.

Having the three goals keeps me

accountable to everything else that God and Jesus says in the bible. I cannot achieve the three goals without obeying everything in the bible

Therefore, what is the Christian life like when applying these three goals to our lives?

God the Father and Jesus Christ loves me unconditionally; God loves me so much that he gave the perfect sacrifice, Jesus, to die on the cross for the forgiveness of my sins. He in turn wants me to love him back the same way by being a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to him⁵. That means I will not put any obstacles or make any excuses to love and obey him with all my heart, mind and soul. God also wants me to love others the same way he loves me. The best way I can show people that I love them is by sharing the Gospel of Jesus with them, so they can experience the forgiveness of their sins and have a relationship with God through Jesus Christ. When they accept and believe in Jesus then God wants me to encourage and help them to build a relationship with him. I am to encourage and help them to understand that God loves them and as we live, we live to glorify him to the point that they in turn will reach out to others and repeat what was done to them by me.

Did I sum the Christian life for you? Do you see the three goals? Does that make sense? Remember these four words; Love, reach, encourage and go.

Love God, **reach** people with the gospel, **encourage** and help one another to build a relationship of love, faith and obedience with God and Jesus, and then send them off to **go** and repeat that to others for the rest of their lives.

We must remember that we are not doing this alone but Jesus is working through us by the Holy Spirit as we are willing. It is a privilege to carry on the work that Jesus came to earth to do and to finish⁶. Living that kind of life will glorify God and the Lord Jesus Christ now and forevermore⁷.

That sums up the Christian life in a practical way for everyone who believes in Jesus.

¹Matthew 22:34-40, ²Mark 16:15-16, ³Matthew 28:18-20, ⁴1Corinthians 10:31, ⁵Romans 12:1-2, ⁶Luke 19:10, Matthew 6:33, John 6:38-40, Luke 17:20-21, ⁷John 10:10, Matthew 24:14

God Bless!

Pastor Darren Sarmiento



Women's Missionary Union (WMU) of the Maui County Baptist Association (MCBA) will be sponsoring the Annual Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer on:

Monday, Nov. 4, 2013 at Valley Isle Fellowship from 430pm--630pm.

You have the opportunity to pray with sisters from the other Baptist church for sisters in other places in the world.

Please save the date!

Prayer Rally



TODAY, Sunday, October 27th

2pm — 3pm

**Corner of Kane St & Kaahumanu Ave in
Kahului**

Come and pray with a *heart of love*, over the Legislative Special Session starting tomorrow. Help us show solidarity in the our community in the belief of Traditional (Biblical) Marriage and to ask the Legislature to vote No.

**Help us, prayerfully, make an impact on our island
and in our state.**



Child Care Schedule

Team 5: Shayna Manlapao, Chevelle Moniz, Dayna Asuncion, Seth Yamada, Wayne Sniffen

Team 1: Jennifer Egami, Corey Egami, Donna Nozaki, Elijah Douglas, Christian Motonaga

Team 2: Joycelyn Kiaha, Marion Kimura, Avery Yamada, Zachary Yamada, Kaiani Kiaha, Daniel Olaso

Team 3: Gretel Saraos, Rosie Quenga, Daniel Quenga, Shalia Mendez, Danica Cooley, Dyllan Caolie

Team 4: Karen Fontanilla, Janice Robello, Judy Giron, Jaydee Giron, Jules Giron, Kolbe Fontanilla, Alysha Fontanilla, Hannah Aiwohi

Oct 27th—Team 5 Nov 17th—Team 3
Nov 3rd—Team 1 Nov 10th—Team 2
Nov 24th—None

Dec 1st—Team 4
Dec 8th—Team 5
Dec 15th—Team 1
Dec 22nd—Team 2
Dec 29th—Team 3

Two Thirds World Ministry



Mission Trip

November 2nd - 13th

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

Boundaries

Pastor Stephen Kaneshiro

Boundaries, everyone has them and lives within them. Boundaries are very important in our society in order to live a fulfilling and enjoyable life. A life without boundaries would be a life of utter chaos and great difficulty. Imagine if the person next to you is a person without any boundaries, living a life of complete and total freedom, doing whatever they desired. I believe that a life like that would bring total chaos and great distress to all that surround him. Therefore, let's think about boundaries.

Boundaries are set up for protection for two primary reasons. First, so that one's enjoyment of life would minimize any negative impacts for others who may surround them. Second, so that we would minimize whatever harms we may inflict on ourselves. Whether we like them or not boundaries are set up for our benefit and the benefit of those around us.

For a period of about three years, I served as the Religious Activities Director for Hawaii Baptist Academy in Honolulu. This was a fancy name for a School Chaplain. As part of my responsibilities, I had to plan and conduct 8 weekend camps each year. I did grade level camps for grades 7 thru 12, a Christian Student Leadership Camp, and a staff camp. For all of the student camps, we had to clearly set the boundaries for the camp, the rules and regulations. Whenever students tried to push the boundaries and see how far beyond those boundaries they could get, they were not very happy. When they were caught and the consequences were administered, they were angry, rebellious, and spiteful. Many times we ended up calling their parents to come and remove them from the camp. This was necessary to ensure the good of the rest of the campers. Some of those who were disciplined were acting out problems before they came and after the camp they continued to act up. A few had to be kicked out of the school. However, there were students who had to be disciplined in one year but the next year learned to live

within the boundaries. Their second year's experience was filled with joy and fulfillment because they benefited from learning to live within the boundaries.

Growing up in functioning, loving, and supportive families is a joyous experience for most children, as each child grows in this loving environment, experiencing the challenges and consequences of trying to push beyond the established boundaries. The quicker they come to accepting those boundaries, the quicker the joy and fulfillment of living within those boundaries are experienced.

When one lives a life of crime, they are living outside of the accepted boundaries of society and they may get away with it for a while. While they are escaping the consequences of living beyond these accepted boundaries, they are usually impacting other people's joy and fulfillment of life. However, in most cases, their life-style catches up with them and they are forced to live out the consequences of their choices. These choices lead them to a life with very limited and forced boundaries. It is really their own fault that these forced boundaries are now upon them. Consequences. No one wants them, but they are inevitable.

Over the last 30 or so years, there have been many studies into the causes of "same-sex attractions." However, with all the studies, there has never been any conclusive findings that show a definite scientific reason for "homosexuality." If there is no scientific evidence that one is "born this way," then the reasons may lie more in the realm of environmental issues or simply a matter of choice. However, for those who hold to the theory that "one is born that way," it really becomes a faith issue. If it is a faith issue for the gay activist, then all faith communities are on equal footing with them.

Why do I even address any of this? Does it have anything to do with our faith in Jesus Christ? The answer to that is a resounding

"YES!" You see, because it is a faith issue that the gay lobby is addressing, we in the Christian Faith need to realize that the most powerful way to address it is with our faith. We do not have to leave our faith behind when we address this. Our saving faith in Jesus Christ gives us the most powerful tool in dealing with those who stand on the other side of this issue. You see, Jesus came to seek and to save those who are lost. Those on the other side of this issue are lost and we need to do all that we can to see them saved. They believe that they were born that way. We believe that they were born to bring glory and honor to Jesus Christ and that means that they need to be redeemed, forgiven, cleansed, and empowered to live a life that glories the Lord. Is this possible? Let me ask that you look at a person by the name of Linda Jernigan. Check out what she says in the following links:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rug3UMYYHzc>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6LF24QgPyE>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3yBvEgglhp0>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=982NuwCebQA>

Also, read what **1 Corinthians 6:9-11 (NLT)** says:

⁹*Don't you realize that those who do wrong will not inherit the Kingdom of God? Don't fool yourselves. Those who indulge in sexual sin, or who worship idols, or commit adultery, or are male prostitutes, or practice homosexuality,¹⁰ or are thieves, or greedy people, or drunkards, or are abusive, or cheat people—none of these will inherit the Kingdom of God.¹¹ Some of you were once like that. But you were cleansed; you were made holy; you were made right with God by calling on the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.*

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Verse 11 is so very important because it says, "Some of you were once like that. But you were cleansed; you were made holy; you were made right with God by calling on the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God." This verse says that God's purpose and intention is that those who are trapped in sin be set free to fulfill all of God's purposes.

It is a lie from the pit of hell that says, "I was born like this and there is no changing." If that is true than the Word of God is a lie. The two statements are contradictory. Christians need to accept, believe, and live out all of the truths of the Bible.

Finally, it is so important that we realize that the Christian life is also a life of boundaries. These boundaries are set by Jesus Christ and are recorded in the Bible. From the example above about the boundaries that I had to set for students at camp, we need to learn to live within the boundaries of Jesus Christ that are recorded for us in the Bible. Those students who bucked against the boundaries and during the next year learned to live within the boundaries and experienced the joy and fulfillment of the camp, they began to come around when they saw their fellow students, who lived within those boundaries, have so much joy and fulfillment from the camp. Many of the other students would talk to the rebellious student about their positive experiences and they refused to buy into the garbage that the rebellious student would spew out. The positive and loving interchange of the other students wooed the rebellious student to want to try it. In some cases, this led to those rebellious students coming to a saving faith in Jesus Christ.

This is exactly what we as Christians need to do in ministering to those caught in the trap of "same-sex attractions." They need to see Christians living Holy Spirit empowered lives that demonstrate the joy and fulfillment that only Jesus Christ can

give. We Christians cannot accept the garbage of sin that comes forth, but instead we need to let them know that the joy and fulfillment can only be theirs if they would only LOVE Jesus and SUBMIT their lives to Him. Then and only then will they experience His LOVE, FORGIVENESS, CLEANSING, FILLING, and EMPOWERING. As we live it in boldness, they will catch it!!! The motto of our lives needs to be, "To Him be the Glory, Great things He has done!!!"

God bless and keep you.



Reliable Information is Critical **Pastor Stephen Kaneshiro**

The information that you gather is critical in formulating opinions on current issues. The right constantly complains about the press' left leaning views. The way a news organization leans, is demonstrated in what they report and how they report it. This is very important because many believe whatever is reported is unbiased fact because it is coming from a news agency. In all my years as a pastor, I have learned in counseling that there are always at least two sides to a story. Your views on a subject will be determined by your biases' and what you accept as fact.

Therefore, it is important that you carefully analyze issues before you settle on a particular view point. It is important that you keep an open mind and continue to look at new views as the issue develops. In order to try and help you with this process,

let me recommend that you consider regularly using some of the sources listed below. Some of these sources lean to the left and some lean to the right. Very few are truly neutral. In your evaluation of different issues, you will be able to develop your own opinions on which ones lean left or right. As you add these sources to those that you are already reading, it will give you a better idea of where your current sources lean. There are so many other sources and probably more on the way that would be worth your time looking into. As you come up with other sources, please share these sources with each other. It is important to

look at sources on both sides.

God bless you as you diligently become more fully informed.

Hawaii Free Press

<http://www.hawaiifreepress.com>

Hawaii Reporter

<http://www.hawaiireporter.com>

Honolulu Civil Beat

<http://www.civilbeat.com/beats/hawaii/>

Fox News

foxnews.com

CNN News

cnn.com

Baptist Press

baptistpress.org

The Blaze

<http://www.theblaze.com>

One News

<http://www.onenewsnow.com/newsbrief>

CALENDAR

October

27Sun ♦ 8am Service : Pastor Stephen
 ♦ 945am Service : Pastor Stephen
 ♥ 6pm Service : Pastor Darren

28Mon

29Tues

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

31Thurs

November

1Fri

18Mon

2Sat ♣ Two-Third World Mission Team leaves

19Tues

3Sun ♦ 8am Service : Pastor Stephen
 ♦ 945am Service : Pastor Stephen
 ♥ 6pm Service : Pastor Jeremy

20Wed ♥ 630pm: Youth Group - Sanctuary
 ♥ 7pm: Prayer Meeting in Annex

4Mon ♥ 430-630pm: BWA Women's Prayer - Sanctuary

21Thurs

5Tues

22Fri

6Wed ♥ 630pm: Youth Group - Sanctuary
 ♥ 7pm: Prayer Meeting in Annex

23Sat

7Thurs ♣ HPBC Annual Meeting (Oahu)

21Thurs

8Fri ♣ HPBC Annual Meeting (Oahu)

22Fri

9Sat

23Sat

10Sun ♦ 8am Service : Pastor Darren - John 8:1-11
 ♦ 945am Service : Pastor Darren - John 8:1-11
 ♥ 6pm Service : Pastor Stephen

24Sun Δ 9am Service : Pastor Darren - Thanksgiving Service

11Mon

25Mon

12Tues

26Tues

13Wed ♥ 630pm: Youth Group - Sanctuary
 ♥ 7pm: Prayer Meeting in Annex

14Thurs

15Fri

16Sat ♥ 9am-12pm: G-Force at the Annex

17Sun ♦ 8am Service : Pastor Jeremy - John 8:12-30
 ♦ 945am Service : Pastor Jeremy - John 8:12-30
 ♥ 6pm Service : Pastor Darren

Legend

- ♦ Wailuku Elementary
- ♥ High Street Property
- ♣ Other Location
- Δ Waikapu Property

ANNOUNCEMENTS

9

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)

Calling all women to the Annual Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer sponsored by the Women's Missionary Union (WMU) and the Maui County Baptist Association (MCBA), will be taking place on Monday, November 4th at the sanctuary at our High Street Property from 430pm until 630pm. You will have the opportunity to pray with sisters from other Baptist churches for sisters in other places around the world. Please save the date!

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.

Operation Christmas Child – Christmas is right around the corner and this year we are partnering again with Samaritan's Purse and thousands of churches across the globe, to send shoe boxes filled with toys, stuffed animals, school supplies and clothes to children around the world! You may never know the impact your shoebox will have on a child's life thousands of miles away from you but you can have confidence that the Lord has been using this ministry to reach children with the good news of Jesus Christ for 20 years and 100 million shoe boxes. Each box will be packed with a wonderful gospel tract that will share the good news of Jesus Christ and hand delivered by the local churches and missionaries around the world in some of the most closed societies to the gospel. So, please join us in this opportunity to share the love of Christ with a child this Christmas.

When is it due?

November 18-25

How can I get more information?

<http://www.samaritanspurse.org/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/>

<http://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/frequently-asked-questions/>

Senior Pastor
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Pastor of Discipleship
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