



Looking for Answers in a Time of Confusion and Distress

Pastor Stephen Kaneshiro

In recent weeks, our world, country, state, county, and even our own personal lives, we have seen so much discord, trials, and so much evil. These kinds of traumas create much confusion and distress. Searching for answers in this confused state is very difficult, but not impossible. Keeping our wits sharp, our hearts focused and clear, and all of our faculties well prepped and ready to be utilized are very crucial.



I believe that we are in a time of training and Satan is showing that the battle will soon begin. During this time, it is easy to be distracted by fear and disillusion. Allowing Satan to influence us to take our eyes off of Jesus will be a fatal error. It is important that we remember that Satan is at war against us and his intent is to destroy us. Have you noticed how many illustrations and settings in the Bible are of warfare? God seems to be training and sending us into a life and death struggle for our very souls. It is important that we realize how deadly Satan's attack on us is and that he is playing for keeps. Our only hope is to yield ourselves to Jesus and follow implicitly His commands and desires.

If we attempt to fight this battle in our own strength and wisdom, we are doomed to fail. If we yield ourselves to the master commander and strategist, we have nothing but victory ahead of us. **Jeremiah 29:11 (NLT)** *For I know the plans I have for you," says the LORD. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope. His training is meant to give us victory when He has to send us into the battle. Sharp wits, focused hearts, and prepared faculties are crucial to victory. We must take full advantage of the training that He is putting us through because all of this training is conditioning us for maximum effectiveness in the battle. All of the skills and knowledge that training brings to life are meant to be so repetitive that they become second nature so that you don't really have to think too much in the thick of battle. It is therefore so important*



to take the training seriously. Stretching your mind and knowledge so that you get the most of the training will really be appreciated when you are in the midst of the battle. Having all of your faculties and equipment in excellent working shape will be of utmost importance.

I want to encourage you to stay focused on Jesus during these times of preparation. Be disciplined to become a disciple of Jesus who is well prepared and equipped for the battle that is certainly coming. **1 Peter 5:8 (NLT)** *Stay alert!*



Watch out for your great enemy, the

devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour. Your enemy is trying to kill you. The best way for him to accomplish this mission is to mess up your training so that it will not accomplish its purpose. To cause you to misuse and fail to use the faculties and equipment that He has provided for you. To cause your faculties and equipment to become foul and unusable is the goal of the enemy.

Coming through the training, as hard as it might be and as confusing as it can be, will give you all of the answers that you need and desire in this time of confusion and distress. You may face difficulties of all kinds, but the biggest difficulty will be losing faith in Jesus Christ. The testing of your faith during this time of training is the most crucial test of all. **James 1:2-4 (NLT)** ² *Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy.* ³ *For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow.* ⁴ *So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you*

(continued next page)

IN THIS ISSUE:

- 1-2 Looking for Answers in a Time of Confusion and Distress
- 2, 5 Announcements
- 3 The Gospel Demands A Response
- 4 The Woodies' Whereabouts
- 6 Missional Opportunities
- 7 VIF Calendar
- 8 Sermon Notes

Looking for Answers in a Time of Confusion and Distress

Pastor Stephen Kaneshiro

will be perfect and complete, needing nothing. Unfaithfulness to the demands of training and its protocols will certainly bring great disappointment and failure. Being aware of what lies ahead and being prepared to face the future is one of the desired outcomes of this training.

I know that the temptation to get lackadaisical, complacent, frustrated, and rebellious is high. Satan is a master strategist who knows all the right buttons to push. He will attack you in the training stages so that he doesn't have to fight you on the battle field. I want to encourage you to be faithful and diligent during this time of training. God bless you all!



Operation Christmas Child 2017

Filled boxes are due **today**.

*Forgot to bring your
box with you?*

*Drop it off at
the church office by*

Wednesday, November 15.

Annual Thanksgiving Potluck

Next week

Sunday, November 19, 2017

following morning worship service

No Sunday School



Bring your favorite dish to share.
Church will provide rice.

**GIVE THANKS
TO THE LORD
FOR HE IS GOOD**
HIS LOVE endures FOREVER!!!

**Mark
Your
Calendar**

Alert, Church Members!

**Annual
Church Business Meeting**

**Sunday, November 26, 2017
6 p.m.**

Women...don't miss this special time!



Friday, November 17 6-7:30 pm

The Gospel Demands A Response

Pastor Darren Sarmiento

*“Anyone who isn’t with me opposes me,
and anyone who isn’t working with me
is actually working against me.”*

Matthew 12:30 NLT

Jesus is responding to an accusation from the Pharisees when he casts out a demon who had possessed a man, made him blind and unable to speak. The Pharisees claimed that he was working with the demons to perform this miracle. Jesus had some words towards the Pharisees about that, saying that a kingdom divided against itself will fall; a family feud will cause division.

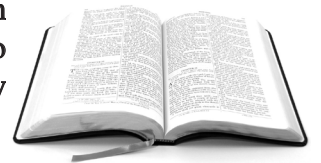
If Satan is fighting against himself that is even more ludicrous. Jesus even turned that kind of thought back to the Pharisees, if you think that about me then what about those of you who perform exorcism? The Pharisees was trying to denounce the claim that people were making when he performed that miracle. They were actually thinking that he was the Messiah and the religious leaders was trying to counter attack those who were thinking and maybe starting to believe in Jesus. They didn’t want the people to believe that Jesus could really be the one that God had sent to save them.



In this situation, what you see are two kinds of responses. There are those who will believe in Jesus and those who will reject him altogether. There will be hatred or passion for Christ.

The only thing I want to point out from this story or situation is this, the gospel demands a response. You might say there could be a third response which is that people could be on the fence about Jesus. You might hear them say, “Eh” maybe? Understand that still is a rejection.

The gospel is such power that it necessitates reaction. Some will be drawn while others are repulsed by Him. The gospel will either awaken the heart or harden it. I just want you to spend some time with the Lord and dwell over Matthew 12:30. If you and I believe in Jesus then there is work to be done. If we don’t believe in Him then there is nothing being done and we are actually working against.



Let me leave you with two questions to talk over with the Lord. What response have you given the Lord? Evaluate your life as a Christian and ask the Lord where do I stand with you, really?

~ ~ ~



Announcements



Childcare Ministry Schedule

Today, Nov 12 **Team 4:** Hawea R, Cheeng S, Jezra S, Danae O

Nov 19 **Team 1:** Karen F, Kolbe F, Alysha F, Melanie F

Nov 26 **Team 2:** Wendy C, Christine B, Lauryn I

Dec 3 **Team 3:** Jennifer B, Francis C, Jaydee G, Jules G



Volunteers Needed!

Join a team to be part of this vital ministry caring for our little ones (on a rotation basis) during morning worship service.

Sign-up sheet at the back table.
For more information, contact
Cheeng @ 385-4364



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



Church Cleaning Schedule

Week of Nov 16-18

Team 2

Paul Y*, Linda Y, Mimie F, Loida P,
Ruth M, Jean K, Del K, Tonette K

Week of Nov 23-25

Team 3

Mickie A*, Ann M, Carol Sa,
Phyllis N, Ken S

Week of Nov 30-Dec 2

Team 4

Hawea R, Wendy I, Lyette K, Anna G,
Stephen K*, Priscilla T, Thelma W,
Alvina M, Amelia T-K

Week of Dec 7-9

Team 5

Carol Sn, Marion K, Makanani C,
Josie Y, Bautista Ohana, Kathy W

*Key Monitor

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

As each one has received a special gift,
employ it in serving one another as
good stewards of the
manifold grace
of God.



1 Peter 4:10

Knowing-Jesus.com



MISSIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

NAMB Missionary Spotlight:



Israel and Eunice Kelly
Church Planter
A Better City Movement NY
3505 Decatur Ave. Apt. 4C
Bronx, NY 10467
israelkelly@gmail.com
abcmovement.com

Pray that we could have 1 million people praying that NYC, especially the Bronx, will be reached with the gospel through a disciple-making movement. Pray for persons of peace, partners and co-laborers..



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

*Please pray for **President Denis Sassou-Nguesso** of Republic of the Congo (western Africa).

***Susu of Guinea** (SOO-soo) - This fall, a commissioning service was held for a young pastor and his family who have been called to work among the Susu on a remote island off the coast of Guinea. This family is being sent to be Jesus' hands and feet in a village where their church has had an outreach for several years. Three years ago, this young pastor, along with two others, was the victim of a brutal beating on a neighboring island they were visiting to offer help during the Ebola crisis. Praise God for the physical and emotional healing that has taken place to enable him to answer this call! Please pray for this family as they relocate and reach out to their new neighbors.


***Maputo, Mozambique: Capital City and Province** (mah-POO-too) - "New workers fresh out of a language and cultural learning time will be arriving soon to join our Maputo Urban Team. They are looking forward to beginning to engage the Chopi and introduce them to the love of God. The Chopi are an unengaged, unreached people largely found in the southern region of Mozambique. Pray that God will touch and prepare their hearts with a desire to know him. Ask God to lead these team members to a 'person of peace' (Luke 10:6) who will help them gain a place of acceptance among the Chopi. Pray for the Chopi to become a loving and bold light in the darkness to their fellow Mozambicans."

***South Asian Peoples:** A new audio CD of Kannada-language songs written by a pastor-leader has just been released. These CDs will be distributed to churches and fellowships. Pray that the songs will be used in worship and that the message will be communicated to many.

Sending Church Labs

The North American Mission Board hosts Sending Church Labs to help churches connect with the Send Network and church planting strategy. Pray for pastors and church leaders who are considering becoming a Supporting Church of a Sending Church to help equip church planters and church plants.

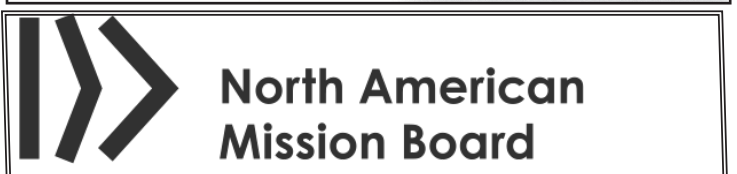
SBC Chaplaincy Spotlight:



SBC Chaplaincy
Southern Baptist Convention

Commander Emory Lussi, CHC
CHAPLAIN, U.S. NAVY
namb.net/contactachaplain
Based: Augusta, Ga.
Wife: Beverly Lussi

Pray God would give me insight to minister to the service members in my new assignment, which is also my last, and that my leukemia stays in remission.



North American Mission Board

PrayerConnect

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

Todd Wood
P.O. Box 8777
Myrtle Beach, SC 29578
todd@impactmb.org

Todd Wood is an evangelism catalyst serving with IMPACT Ministries in Myrtle Beach, S.C. Please pray for IMPACT Ministries as we raise \$3 million to purchase a former church building and its two-acre property in downtown Myrtle Beach. Owning this facility, will allow us to convert the building into a retreat center. We will be able to house and feed church teams as they share the message of Christ with the 18 million tourists visiting our city each year. Because of the rising cost of hotel rooms, we have seen a decrease in the number of missions teams coming to assist us. Yet, the number of tourists continues to increase each year. Pray that God will send both donors and missions teams to help us reach our city for Christ.

Valley Isle Fellowship Calendar

November 2017

- 12 9:00 am - Worship Service
OCC shoeboxes *due*
10:30 am - Sunday School
12 noon - Trustees Meeting
6:00 pm - Evening Service/Study
- 13 6:30 pm - Prayer Meeting
- 15 6:30 pm - Youth Night
- 17 *Office closed Fridays*
6:30 pm - Sweet Life Cafe
- 19 9:00 am - Worship Service
10:30 am - *Annual Thanksgiving Potluck*
6:00 pm - Evening Service/Study
- 20 6:30 pm - Prayer Meeting
- 22 6:30 pm - Youth Night
- 23 *Thanksgiving Day - Office CLOSED*
- 24 *Office closed Fridays*
- 26 9:00 am - Worship Service
- *Ordinance of Lord's Supper*

10:30 am - Sunday School
6:00 pm - *VIF Annual Business Meeting*

- 27 6:30 pm - Prayer Meeting
- 29 6:30 pm - Youth Night

December 2017

- 1 *Office closed Fridays*
5:00 pm - MOvinG Men of God Men's Ministry
- 3 9:00 am - Worship Service
10:30 am - Sunday School
12 noon - Discipleship Leaders Meeting
6:00 pm - Evening Service/Study
- 4 6:30 pm - Prayer Meeting
- 6 6:30 pm - Youth Night
- 8 *Office closed Fridays*
- 10 9:00 am - Worship Service
10:30 am - Sunday School
12 noon - Trustees Meeting
6:00 pm - Evening Service/Study

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

Worth the Effort and Struggle

Philippians 4:1-9

Pastor Stephen Kaneshiro

- I. Stay _____ – *Philippians 4:1-3*
- A. Com _____ to remain true
 - B. Com _____ of truth
 - C. Com _____ for the truth
- II. Stay _____ – *Philippians 4:4-7*
- A. _____ of consistency
 - B. _____ acts of consistency
 - 1. _____
 - 2. _____
 - 3. _____ in _____
 - 4. _____ beyond _____
- III. Stay _____ – *Philippians 4:8-9*
- A. _____ what is pure
 - B. _____ what is pure
 - C. _____ God's presence

NOTES: