



Valley Isle Fellowship
 Love God. Love His Church. Love His World
 473 S High St • PO Box 886
 Wailuku, HI 96793

NEWSLETTER

November 29, 2015 www.vifmaui.com

Stretched, But Not Broken

Pastor Stephen Kaneshiro

Life can get so hectic that the stresses and strains of life become almost unbearable. This must have been the way the apostle Paul felt like when he wrote in **2 Corinthians 4:8-9 (NLT)** *“We are pressed on every side by troubles, but we are not crushed. We are perplexed, but not driven to despair. We are hunted down, but never abandoned by God. We get knocked down, but we are not destroyed.”* Life’s stresses and strains can make us feel perplexed and pressed in on every side by trials and calamities. However, do you notice what Paul says, “we are not crushed ..., not driven to despair ..., never abandoned ..., and not destroyed.” The apostle Paul was “Stretched, but not Broken.” I believe that this gives us hope that we can live in the victory and strength like Paul.

Thanksgiving is now behind us and the official start of the Christmas Season (the Holiday Season) is upon us. Although this is usually a very joyous season, it is a season of some of the highest stresses and strains. The pull of family and friends to celebrate and rejoice can bring its share of grief and pain.

The challenges of the Christmas Season starts by the world tempting you to change your priorities. Your highest priority of loving Jesus with all of your heart, soul, and mind are really challenged by all around you wanting a bigger portion of your attention and time. The strain of trying to find that perfect gift for all of the people on your lists can consume many hours of going to the malls and surfing the internet so that it can literally wear you out. Time for the Lord, for His service, and for His fellowship seem to take second place to all of these pressing “needs” that seem to be pressing in on you.

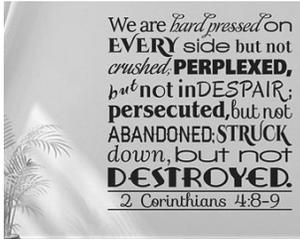
We seem to talk ourselves into believing that this is just a

temporary situation and as soon as all of this holiday rush is over, then we will put the Lord back into His proper priority place of honor. However, as soon as the rush is over, we are so tired that we need to take some time out to rest and recuperate. Again this leaves the Lord in second place. During this time of rest and recuperation we become unaware that other priorities are rising and replacing the Lord as the highest priority again.

It is a struggle and a fight well worth it to have Jesus remain the highest priority even through the holiday hassle. Fight hard to never allow Him to lose His place of highest priority. If you keep Him as your highest priority, you will never have to fight to get Him back into that place of priority.

When Jesus is your highest priority, you will be stretched, but you will never be broken. The Lord keeps all of His promises, especially to those who are faithful and love Him with all of their heart, mind, and soul. When Jesus is in control of your life, it is impossible for you to burn-out and get broken. This happens only as you strive to handle the distresses of your life in your strength and power instead of in the love, grace, and power of the Lord.

I want to encourage you to keep Jesus as your highest priority and may you enjoy all of the blessings that He has planned and orchestrated for you during this blessed Christmas Season. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



IN THIS ISSUE	
1	Stretched, But Not Broken
2	Intentional Living
3-5	Announcements
6	VIF Calendar
7	Sermon

Intentional Living

Pastor Darren Sarmiento

1 Corinthians 9:19-27 NLT

¹⁹ Even though I am a free man with no master, I have become a slave to all people to bring many to Christ. ²⁰ When I was with the Jews, I lived like a Jew to bring the Jews to Christ. When I was with those who follow the Jewish law, I too lived under that law. Even though I am not subject to the law, I did this so I could bring to Christ those who are under the law. ²¹ When I am with the Gentiles who do not follow the Jewish law, I too live apart from that law so I can bring them to Christ. But I do not ignore the law of God; I obey the law of Christ.

²² When I am with those who are weak, I share their weakness, for I want to bring the weak to Christ. Yes, I try to find common ground with everyone, doing everything I can to save some. ²³ I do everything to spread the Good News and share in its blessings.

²⁴ Don't you realize that in a race everyone runs, but only one person gets the prize? So run to win! ²⁵ All athletes are disciplined in their training. They do it to win a prize that will fade away, but we do it for an eternal prize. ²⁶ So I run with purpose in every step. I am not just shadowboxing. ²⁷ I discipline my body like an athlete, training it to do what it should. Otherwise, I fear that after preaching to others I myself might be disqualified.



This past Thanksgiving Sunday morning service a brother in the Lord came up to me afterwards. He mentioned how in Jesus he feels free and believes that he has been set free because of Jesus going to the cross and making him right with God the Father. One day he asked God, "What does it mean to worship You with my life?" He mentioned this to me because of the sermon I had just preached. Long story short, he believed the Lord told him to give up his professional occupation and live to follow Him for the rest of his life. Living in many places around the world he now resides in Maui. He doesn't have a mortgage because it is paid off and just for your information it is not a glamorous house but a house nonetheless that God gave him. He is an artist and the Lord is using Him to tell others about Jesus. He has made friends along the way and in a nonthreatening way has been able to bring God and Jesus into the conversations. Wherever the Lord leads him he believes that that's where he'll be and trusts that the Lord will use him to tell others the good news, the gospel of Jesus Christ. This brother in the Lord is worshipping God and telling others about Jesus through his *intentional living*.

I believe that this is how the Apostle Paul was living according to the passage in 1 Corinthians 9:19-27. He was a free man because he knew through the gospel Jesus forgave him of his sins, paid the price for his sins and made him right with God and now he can call God, "Father". Some Christians might say that the life Paul was living was for himself and not for others. I would have to disagree with that. If the Apostles were told to go and make disciples (which means to share the gospel and encourage people to live an intentional way of life according to God) don't you think that the way the apostles walked and talked was going to be passed on to those they were discipling? In the passage above one of the things I see being pointed out is that the Apostle Paul at least revealed that in general we need to have an intentional way of living. A way of living that is not by choice but by necessity because of conversion. When we truly believe in Jesus we will **follow** His ways, **know** His truths and **live** the life He lived. Like our brother in the Lord and Paul, let's start to live a life with intentionality so that others will hear, see and maybe want what we have, which is Jesus!

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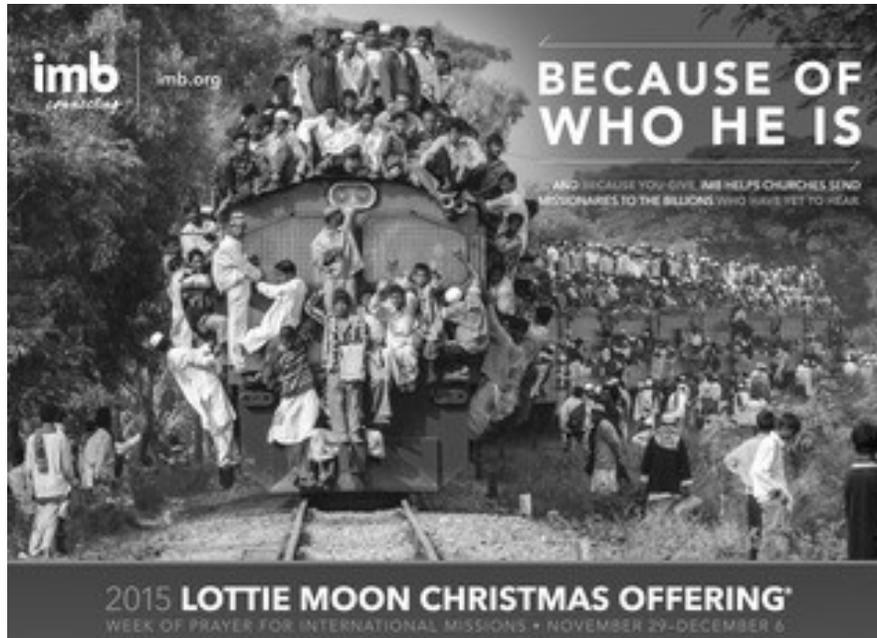


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Deck the Halls . . .

Let's bless the students and staff of Wailuku Elementary as we
"Deck the Halls" of this cafeteria.
Come join in the fun this Wednesday, December 2 at 6:30 p.m.!!!

ANNOUNCEMENTS



This week has been designated as the Week of Prayer for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. The namesake of this offering for the International Mission Board is Ms. Lottie Moon (1840-1912) who served as a missionary to China. A pamphlet from the IMB states in part: *"China was not safe for foreigners or Christians, and Lottie Moon was both. But she didn't let that stop her, and her life of radical obedience touched many. Lottie Moon is the Southern Baptists' most-celebrated missionary and the namesake of the offering that sends missionaries to the field."*

100% of this offering goes to support missionaries on the field as they share the gospel of Jesus Christ. Let us also commit to pray for them throughout the year.



Attention All VIF Members . .

VIF Annual Business Meeting
TONIGHT at 6 pm

*Pick-up a copy of the proposed budget
and recommendations
at the back table*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

High Street Cleaning Schedule



Week of Dec 3-5 **Week of Dec 24-26**
Edwards, Reimann, Volunteers Needed
Kaneshiro

Week of Dec 10-12
Powell Ohana

Week of Dec 17-19
Pauline, Kathy,
Linda, Marion

**HELP
WANTED**



**Be in The Know.
Join Our Text Alerts.**

To receive messages via text, text
@mrvif to **81010**. You can opt-
out of messages at anytime by
replying, 'unsubscribe @mrvif'.

Trouble using 81010?
Try texting **@mrvif** to
(808)670-3442 instead.

Standard text message rates apply.

MCBA WMU "JOY TO THE WORLD"

2015 Mission Study on Indonesia

Saturday, Dec. 5

9-10 am Registration/Breakfast

10-11 am Mission Study

Kahului Baptist Church

309 Puunene Ave., Kahului

We will be collecting newborn diapers to donate to
Malama Pregnancy Center

No childcare



SHARING GOD'S WORD
PASTOR DAVID CRIM
Senior Pastor of International Baptist Church of Manila
Director of Mission field Operations for Two-Thirds World Network

Sunday, December 6, 2015
9 AM: Missional Revival
6 PM: Testimonies on Living the Life of Disciple-Makers
Fellowship and Refreshments to follow both services

"Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people"

ANNOUNCEMENTS



DISASTER RELIEF
call Church Office
244-0865

Church Cleaning Ministry
call Church Office
244-0865

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

CRISIS CARE MINISTRY
Pastor Stephen Kaneshiro
419-8100

Handyman Ministry
Andy Sniffen
264-0526

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

Here are opportunities to gather together in prayer

Sunday; 6am
(Pastor Jeremy’s Office)

Monday; 10 am & 6:30 pm
(High St Sanctuary)

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.

Sundays Schedule

6:00 am Prayer Meeting <i>(Pastor Jeremy’s Office)</i>	10:30 am Sunday School <i>(Children & Youth-High St Property)</i> <i>(Adults-WES)</i>
7:00 am Set-up	
9:00 am Worship Service <i>(no childcare)</i>	6:00 pm Evening Service <i>(High St Property)</i>

Valley Isle Fellowship 2015 Calendar

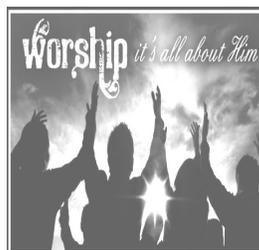
November 2015

- 29 6 am - Prayer Time (Pastor Jeremy's Office)
 9 am - Pastor Stephen
 - Lord's Supper
 10:30 am - Sunday School at High St Property
 - Adult Sunday School @ WES
 6 pm - Annual Business Meeting
- 30 10 am - Prayer Meeting @ Sanctuary
 6:30 pm - Prayer Meeting @ Sanctuary

December 2015

- 2 6:30 pm - Youth Group "Fuel" @ Sanctuary
 3 VIF Seniors Luncheon
 5 MCBA WMU "Joy To The World" Mission Study
 6 6 am - Prayer Time (Pastor Jeremy's Office)
 9 am - Pastor David Crim, TTWN
 10:30 am - Sunday School at High St Property
 - Adult Sunday School @ WES
 6 pm - Pastor David Crim, TTWN

- 7 10 am - Prayer Meeting @ Sanctuary
 6:30 pm - Prayer Meeting @ Sanctuary
- 9 6:30 pm - Youth Group "Fuel" @ Sanctuary
- 13 6 am - Prayer Time (Pastor Jeremy's Office)
 9 am - Pastor Stephen
 10:30 am - Sunday School at High St Property
 - Adult Sunday School @ WES
 6 pm - Pastor Stephen
- 14 10 am - Prayer Meeting @ Sanctuary
 6:30 pm - Prayer Meeting @ Sanctuary



Today's Worship Songs

All The Earth Will Sing Your Praises

Jesus Loves Me

Mighty To Save

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

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

Senior Pastor

Stephen Kaneshiro
 Cell: (808) 419-8100

Email: icastephen@gmail.com

121 Ho`owaiwai Lp #801
 Wailuku, HI 96793

Associate Pastor

Jeremy Kaneshiro
 Cell: (808) 280-2780

Email: vifjeremy@gmail.com

Beware of the Christmas Season!

Pastor Stephen Kaneshiro

I. Who's _____? - *Ezekiel 33:1-6*

A. 1st – The _____.

B. 2nd – The _____.

C. Not Held Responsible – The _____.

II. _____ of what? - *John 8:31-48*

A. The _____.

B. The _____.

C. _____ and _____ reveal your yielding.

III. _____ - *Ezekiel 33:10-11*

A. _____ our sins.

B. _____ of our sins.

C. _____ to the Lord.

NOTES: