



He Is A Great and Mighty God!

Pastor Stephen Kaneshiro



December is already here and the end of the year is right around the corner. This is a very busy time of the year for family, friends and for the church. This season can catch many by surprise and they can forget their priorities and the things that are important in life. I would like to

remind you that the most important issues are issues of faith.

Trust and Faith in our Lord Jesus Christ and all that He has done for us personally and cooperatively should never be forgotten. His love and grace permeates all that He has done for all of us. **John 3:16 (KJV)** says, *“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”* Then in **Romans 5:8 (KJV)** it says, *“But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”* Finally, in **Psalms 108:4 (NLT)** it says, *“For your unfailing love is higher than the heavens. Your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.”* Scripture does not only speak of God’s love and grace for the world, but it also gives illustration after illustration of God demonstrating and proving His love.

Is it such a ridiculous and unreasonable proposition to have the highest level of trust and faith in our Lord, who demonstrates His love and grace over and over in scripture as well as in our daily lives? His love and grace moved Him to sacrifice more for us than we can ever imagine. His sacrifice for us was more costly to Him than we could ever sacrifice for Him. His love for us is deeper and wider than our love for Him could ever be. He is certainly worth all of the love that we can muster up for Him. He is worth all the love and loyalty that we can give to Him because His love is so great.

“Great and mighty is He. Clothed in Glory, arrayed in Splendor. Great and mighty is He.” These are the words



of a worship chorus that emphasizes our Great and mighty God. This is true and He is worthy.

His love for us can be amply characterized by His respect, care, and commitment to us. His respect for us causes Him to never manipulate and coerce us to do what He desires of us. He does reveal His desires for us and allows us the will to choose. His care for us reaches down to us and provides for our needs, but His respect for us still allows us the will to choose. His commitment to us causes Him to stay beside us no matter how many times we make the wrong choice. His commitment goes even farther for us when we realize our disobedience and asks for His forgiveness, His love and commitment for us rushes Him to anxiously forgive us. **Isaiah 1:18 (KJV)** says, *“Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.”* His love and grace causes Him to be so committed to us that He rushes to forgive us completely and immediately.



This kind of love that is modeled by our Lord and Savior is the kind of love that we need to have for Him. We need to continuously strive to have a love for our Lord that is grounded in the deepest respect, care, and commitment to Him. A respect that causes us to honor Him for who He is, the King of kings and Lord of lords. A care that compels us to care for His name and honor more than our own. A commitment that continues to love and obey Him no matter how difficult it might become. Our Lord not only models this kind of love so that

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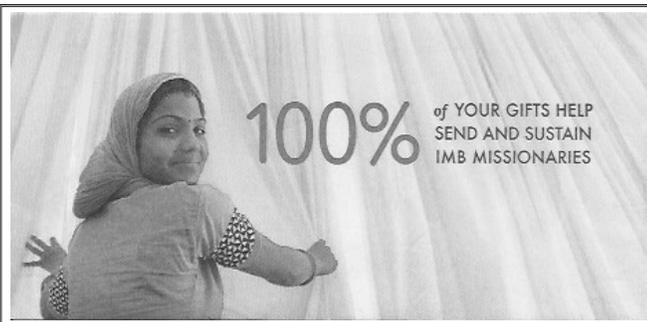
The Power of Thankfulness

Pastor Stephen Kaneshiro

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we can know how to love Him, but He graciously provides His Holy Spirit to empower us to be able to love Him in this fashion. What a Great and Mighty God is He!

Thanksgiving Day is over, but let us strive to let Thanksgiving reign in our hearts forever! As Christmas is around the corner, let's allow our love for our Lord rise to a visible crescendo. A crescendo that will unmistakably be centered in our Lord who we can fully have faith and trust in. One who desires all of our Love, respect, care, and commitment! To Him be all the honor and glory because He is worthy of it all!!!



the gospel resounds

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering 2016

This week is

Week Of Prayer For International Missions

*See your prayer guide insert for testimonies
from some of your missionaries*



You are invited!!

Your input is needed at the
Evaluation Meeting
for our

***Thanksgiving Turkey
Imu Outreach***

2:30 p.m. TODAY
High Street Sanctuary



***Saturday, December 24
6 p.m.***

Wailuku Elementary School Cafeteria

*Invite your family and friends
as we worship and celebrate
the Birth of Our Savior*

Lottie Moon: The Rebel I Want to Be

Lori McDaniel

Published Nov. 29, 2016 found at <https://www.imb.org/2016/11/29/lottie-moon-the-rebel-i-want-to-be/>

Lottie Moon. I want to be like her, but I didn't realize how much until I dove into her life story.

You could draw a line in the sand, mention the name Lottie Moon, and people who revere her will move to one side of the line while people whispering, "Who's that?" will migrate to the other. I had one foot in each camp.

My current church is in the "who's that?" category. Most people at my church, planted fifteen years ago, did not grow up thoroughbred Southern Baptists. While they participate in and give to global missions, they're not familiar with Lottie. But I grew up in a church that revered her, and I raised money for missions in my rice-bowl-shaped piggy bank to give to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

Her photos in a Victorian-laced collar might give the impression she was a stuffy school marm who adhered to strict rules. Yet, she was playfully defiant, poking fun at the church until she chose to follow Christ at age eighteen. And she was ambitiously smart and became one of the first women in the South to earn a master's degree.

Whether you're already familiar with her story or this is your first introduction, you'll find that her somewhat terse language flows from a contagious, tenacious heart for God's mission.

WHY I WANT TO BE LIKE LOTTIE

1. She confidently believed that salvation was personal and so was the Great Commission.

The gospel came through Christ to us to save us, but not to stop with us. We are saved for God's glory and then appointed to declare his glory. "Should we not press it home upon our consciences that the sole object of our conversion was not the salvation of our own souls, but that we might become coworkers with our Lord and Master in the conversion of the world?" Lottie asked.

2. She daringly called for an insurrection in status quo mission thinking.

If the Great Commission is for all believers, then we must personally answer the question, "Am I going or sending?"

- **She challenged young men:** "Ask not if it is his duty to go to the heathen, but if he may dare stay at home. The command is so plain: 'Go.'"
- **She challenged pastors:** "Knowing the loud call for laborers in the foreign field, will you settle down with your home pastorates? So many could be found to fill your places . . . so few volunteer for foreign work."
- **She challenged women:** "Thousands of women will never hear the gospel until women bear it to them."

3. She unapologetically asked believers to give.

Although salvation is free, sending people where the gospel has not been shared has a cost. Giving to God's mission is an investment. Lottie's questions create a jolt meant to stir hearts to an urgent need. "Why this strange indifference to missions?" she wrote. "Why these scant contributions? Why does money fail to be forthcoming when approved men and women are asking to be sent to proclaim the 'unsearchable riches of Christ' to the heathen?"

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Lottie Moon: The Rebel I Want to Be

Lori McDaniel

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4. She unwaveringly obeyed God and abandoned comfort to live in a hard place.

The eternal reality that people were dying without hearing of Jesus trumped the reality of living in a place devoid of convenience and comfort. Living in China during political upheaval and among people who “had an aversion to foreigners” were mere splinters of the difficulties she faced. Yet she wrote from a village, “The circumstance would suggest an utter absence of comfort, yet we find ourselves more than contented.”

5. She didn't shy away from pleading for a legion of workers to be sent.

Lottie didn't merely play at missions but confidently persuaded others to consider the reality of people going to an eternal hell. “We implore you to send us help. Let not these heathen sink down into eternal death without one opportunity to hear that blessed gospel, which is to you the source of all joy and comfort,” she wrote.

Lottie defied the limits of generational, cultural, and missional norms for the sake of the gospel. I want to be so bold. With nearly three billion people who have never heard of Jesus, we should dare be the same kind of rebel, disrupting casual mission thinking and ambitiously resolved to get the gospel to all nations at all costs.

I'll unapologetically ask the same words as Lottie: “*Is not the festive season when families and friends exchange gifts in memory of the Gift laid on the altar of the world for the redemption of the human race, the most appropriate time to consecrate a portion from abounding riches and scant poverty to send forth the good tidings of great joy into all the earth?*”

Let us go. But if we stay, let us give, so that others may be sent.

**All quotes are from Lottie's letters written while she lived in China.*

Lori McDaniel is church initiatives leader at IMB. She served with her family for several years in Africa before returning to plant a church in the United States. You can find her on Twitter @lorimmcdaniel.

Sweet Life Cafe

October 28 | November 18 | December 16

6pm – 7:30pm
VIF Church – High Street
Entrance from stairs facing High Street

Ladies..Come join us for a cup of coffee, tea, water. Bring a friend or meet a friend.

For questions please contact
Pam (446-4009) or Lani (757-1652)





**CHRISTMAS
WORSHIP
SCHEDULE**

**Saturday,
December 24**
6 p.m. @ WES

**Sunday,
December 25**
9 a.m. @ WES
NO Sunday School
NO evening service

Announcements



Childcare Schedule

- Today, Dec. 4** **Team 3:** Flo N, Hawea R, Francis C
- Dec. 11** **Team 4:** Cheeng S, Jennifer B,
Gwendolyn R
- Dec. 18** **Team 1:** Marion K, Karen F, Kolbe F,
Alysha F, Melanie F
- Dec. 25** **Team 2:** Elaine Y, Wendy C, Krystal
AV, Dmitry V



High Street Lawn Care Schedule

Week of Dec 8-10
Volunteers Needed

Week of Dec 15-17
Volunteers Needed

Week of Dec 22-24
Volunteers Needed

*Sign-up in the back to be a
part of this ministry.*



**Be in the know!
Join our text alerts . . .**

To receive messages via text:

A) If you have a smartphone, get push notifications.
On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web
browser and go to

rmd.at/mrvif

Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind.
You'll be prompted to download the mobile app.

B) If you don't have a smartphone,
get text notifications.

Text the message @mrvif
to the number
81010 or (808)670-3442.

**Standard text message rate may apply.*

For more information, call the Church Office @244-0865.



High Street Cleaning Schedule

Week of Dec 8-10
Bautista Ohana

Week of Dec 15-17
Volunteers Needed

Week of Dec 22-24
Volunteers Needed

*Sign-up in the back to be a
part of this ministry.*

MISSIONAL OPORTUNITIES

Global Hunger Relief
bread for life.
An Initiative of Southern Baptists



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

***France:** As Baptist representatives begin their second year in a southern French city, their desire is to watch the church that has begun as a spark grow into an inextinguishable flame. They have seen more families join the core group, and others are visiting. They meet weekly as a church and are hoping to see three or four home groups begin this year. It has been exciting as new believers “catch the mission vision.” One young man who is growing in the Lord said, “You know, I used to not believe in destiny, thinking I could write my own story. But now I look at this new friend who doesn’t know God, and my wife as well, and I know it’s not for nothing. God has a plan, and I’m part of it.” The Baptist representatives know that this man is right and that they are also a part of God’s plan. Please join in prayer with these Baptist representatives--for you are a part of God’s plan, too--and pray that more people in this city will see the need for Christ and the hope of redemption. The Baptist representatives ask you to pray that they will abide in Christ like a consistent, burning fire. Pray that the fire refines, purifies, and burns away the unnecessary worries that would distract from the task to which God has called them.

***Maputo, Mozambique, Capital City and Province:** Missionaries have begun teaching the believers about the Father’s heart for the lost and the church. What’s different this time is that the believers, not just the pastors, will begin practicing sharing what they are learning. Pray for the believers to be faithful and bold to share their story and then transition into sharing God’s story and the gospel.

NAMB Missionary Spotlight:

Chris and Rebecca PERSTROPE

Church Planter
Connect Church STL
1763 Praise Blvd.
Fenton, MO 63026
chris@connectchurchstl.com
ConnectChurchSTL.com

Pray that the Lord will use us and our team to be faithful in sharing the good news of Christ through our lives and through our words as we continue to seek out new disciples in Fenton and St. Louis County.

North American Mission Board MIDWEST
Population 6,559,643
SBC Congregations 5,400
SBC Church to Population Ratio 1 to 12,129

SBC Chaplain Spotlight:

SBC Chaplaincy
Southern Baptist Convention

Chaplain (Major) Stan Smith
U.S. ARMY
namb.net/contactachaplain
Based: Fort Drum, N.Y.
Wife: Joanna Smith

Pray for vision and encouragement for chaplains and congregations as we share the gospel in our community. Pray for wisdom to navigate organizational challenges and for our families as they stand with us in this unique and amazing ministry.

NORTH-AMERICAN MISSION BOARD



Valley Isle Fellowship Calendar

December 2016

4-11 *Lottie Moon Christmas Offering Week of Prayer for`
International Missions*

- 4 9 am - Worship Service
10:30 am - Sunday School at High St Property
- Adult Sunday School @ Pastor's Study
2:30 pm Imu Evaluation Meeting
6:00 pm - Evening Service/Study
- 5 6:30 pm - Prayer Meeting @ Annex
- 7 6:30 pm - Youth Group "Fuel" @ Sanctuary
- 11 9 am - Worship Service
10:30 am - Sunday School at High St Property
- Adult Sunday School @ Pastor's Study
6:00 pm - Evening Service/Study
- 12 6:30 pm - Prayer Meeting @ Annex
- 14 6:30 pm - Youth Group "Fuel" @ Sanctuary
- 16 6:00 pm - Sweet Life Cafe
- 18 9 am - Worship Service
10:30 am - Sunday School at High St Property
- Adult Sunday School @ Pastor's Study

6:00 pm - Evening Service/Study

- 19 6:30 pm - Prayer Meeting @ Annex
- 21 6:30 pm - Youth Group "Fuel" @ Sanctuary
- 23 *Office Closed at noon*
- 24 Christmas Eve Service 6 pm @ WES
- 25 **Christmas Day Service 9 a.m.**
NO Sunday School
NO Evening Service
- 26 6:30 pm - Prayer Meeting @ Annex
- 27-29 *Pastor Stephen off island*
- 28 6:30 pm - Youth Group "Fuel" @ Sanctuary
- 30 *Office Closed at noon*

January 2017

- 1 **New Years Day Service 9 a.m.**
NO Sunday School
NO Evening Service
- 2 6:30 pm - Prayer Meeting @ Annex

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
(High Street property)

Senior Pastor

Stephen Kaneshiro

cell: (808)419-8100

email: icastephen@gmail.com

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

This Baby Became Our Savior!

Pastor Stephen Kaneshiro

I. Born to be the _____ Lamb of God.

(1 Peter 1:18-20)

A. To be a _____ .

B. To be a _____, _____ Savior, full of _____.

C. To be our _____.

II. Born to be our _____.

(1 Corinthians 15:16-19)

A. Jesus gives us Hope of _____.

B. Jesus gives us Hope of the _____.

C. Jesus gives us Hope for _____.

III. Born to be our _____.

(Revelation 21:3-4)

A. Joy of being with Jesus _____.

B. Joy of no more _____, _____, _____
or _____ .

C. Joy of the _____ of this _____ being gone forever.

IV. Born to be _____ and _____.

(1 John 2:3-6)

A. To _____ Him is to obey Him.

B. To _____ Him is to obey Him.

C. To obey Him is to live as _____ .