

Pukalani Baptist Church

WITH CHRIST, INTO CRISIS!

"...He Hath Said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee."
Hebrews 13:5b

Sunday, March 29, 2020

Pastor's Pen by Pastor Paul Kaneshiro

Last week we shared about Fear and what God's Word says about Fear. This week Let's focus on **RELATIONSHIP**. A Key way of dealing with Fear is Relationships. It's harder to deal with Fear when we feel all alone. But Jesus sent His Disciples out on Mission by twos, so that they would not have to face difficulties alone.

But what about when you are alone. There is not another there with you in the situation that you're in. What then??? Then there is the Promise of our Heavenly Father in **Hebrews 13:5b "...for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee."** Even when there is no one else with us, HE IS ALWAYS WITH US.

He reminds us of this in **Psalm 4:8 "In peace I will both lie down and sleep, For You alone, O Lord, make me to dwell in safety."** Then once again in **John 14:18 "I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you."**

Our Heavenly Father invites us, calls us to come to HIM. To become His Child as He is our GOD. Then we are never alone.

God Bless You,
Pastor Paul

(We are posting the Audio Recordings of the Sermons along with the Notes on our website. Go to "**pukalanibaptist.com**" Then look at the menu on the top of the page for Messages. Click on that and on this year, then choose which message you want to listen to.)

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Church
Newsletter

Instructions to Accessing the Sermons on our PBC website:

1. Log on to www.pukalanibaptist.com;
2. Click on Messages;
3. Click on 2020 Messages; and
4. Choose the Sermon of the Day (i.e. for today's sermon, click on the 3/22/20).

For assistance, please email the church office at pbcmaui@hawaii.rr.com or call (808) 572-7968

Testimonies



Becoming a Christian by Peggy Kuia

“Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates, so that your days and the days of your children may be many in the land that the LORD swore to give your forefathers, as many as the days that the heavens are above the earth.”

Deuteronomy 11:18-21.

My GOD, who is the LORD JESUS CHRIST, has been a part of my life since before I was born. I am one of those very lucky people who have had Christian grandparents on both my Mom's and Dad's side of the family, as well as Christian parents. They prayed for me before I was conceived and born. They continued to pray for me all their lives. I gave my life to JESUS when I was 7. My Mom and Dad would call the 3 of us children together before bed time and read a chapter of the Bible every night. Then, each of us would have to say a prayer. It was a wonderful family time, but many times I fell asleep before it was over (very embarrassing when it came my turn to pray). Before each meal we were to quote a scripture we had memorized, then a prayer of thanksgiving was given and only then could we eat. We could not repeat a scripture another said and if we couldn't finish, Mom or Dad would coach us through it. One day I asked my Mom about going to heaven and she told me about asking Jesus into my heart. I prayed, asking for a clean, white heart. Jesus became my constant companion and friend.

I was not always “good” and at times I still wondered if I would go to Heaven when I died. One Sunday evening at church, we had a guest speaker that was a missionary to Indonesia. He talked to us about the persecution of Christians in that country. I knew I loved the LORD but didn't know if I could stand up under such opposition. I felt the tugging of the Holy Spirit and at the end of the service, I went forward to rededicate my life to Jesus and to follow HIM no matter what.

Becoming a Christian (Christ like) is a life long journey that is not smooth. We need to purpose in our hearts to follow HIM all the time. Micah 6:8 says “He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your GOD.” This takes a lifetime of practice.

There is no one like my GOD. HE is loving, just, kind, merciful and righteous. HE is beautiful and fearsome. HE is a loving Father and King of Kings and LORD of Lords. HE loves us so much HE died for us so we could spend eternity with HIM. HE rose from the grave, conquering death and sin to become the Worthy Lamb that is full of power, wealth, wisdom, strength, honor, glory and praise. (Rev 5:12).

May the LORD bless you and keep you, make HIS face shine upon you and give you peace.

Peggy Kuia

Message from Deacon Shawn Racoma

Growing up my parents always had me attend Catholic private schools. My part of my elementary years was spent at St. Elizabeth School. And although I was never baptized or held fast to any belief, I kinda liked the ritual of going to mass in the morning, watching people take the bread and cup (I wasn't allowed because I wasn't Catholic). I guess something stuck because I always felt that I could talk to GOD at that point. I remember one day after cutting my hair I wasn't very pleased with how it looked and remember grumbling to GOD in the shower.

Anyway, back in 1979ish, my parents were divorced for several years at this point, mom lived in the mainland and dad got remarried and lived in Nu'uano. Due to some circumstances, my sister and I found ourselves living back in our Pearlridge house where we used to live before my parents divorced. I was like any other high school kid, except for the carefree no rules lifestyle. My friends and I would be carousing around at all hours of the night being "kolohe". There was one friend named Mason. We weren't that close and he wasn't one of the inner circle guys. Early one morning (Sunday), Mason came over to my house and of all things invited me to church??? I thought to myself, Mason has finally lost it. I don't remember exactly what I said, something like, "nah, I going back sleep". The next Sunday he came back again, and for some reason, probably the Holy Spirit, I told him ok. I remember we went to Word of Life church, Art Sepulveda was the pastor and it was at McKinley High school.

Not sure what he was preaching about but at the end of the service he asked if anyone wanted to accept Jesus as their Lord and Saviour, my hand went up as if someone was holding it up. I walked towards the front and we prayed a prayer asking Jesus to come into my life. I was then led into another room where one of their deacons or leader sat with me to explain further about Jesus and what he did for me. I believe the following week we went back again and they had asked if anyone wanted to be baptized. There was a bunch of people that signed up and we met at Magic Island in Ala Moana Beach Park, a place where we used to party a lot, kinda ironic. A bunch of us got baptized and I went surf right after since I was there already, best surf day ever by the way. To be honest, I wasn't "transformed" or became automatically holy, in fact, I continued in my kolohe lifestyle, the difference was I heard HIM more clearly.

In the early '80s the strangest thing started happening, Jehovah Witness and Mormons started coming to the house. I remember I started a pretty good relationship with a Witness named Catherine Yoon. Soooo many stories about the Witness' and Mormons. All this time I was reading my bible and really trying to understand HIS word, it was during this time that HE allowed me to understand and remember HIS words.

To this day most of the things I know or remember came from those times reading and drawing close to HIM. HE protected me against the false teachings and has carried me till today. So, if I can be saved there is hope for everyone THANK YOU JESUS!

Today's Scripture

He must become greater, I must become less
John 3:30 (New International Version) NIV

Prayer Requests & Praises for the Week

Iris Ginoza: Please be in prayer for Charley and I as we were just tested for covid19. Test results in 5 days. Although we didn't have all the symptoms, we are high risk. Doctor felt that Charley may have walking pneumonia. We'll be at home till we get the results. Thank you for praying.

Carmelynn Tan: Dear Pukalani Baptist Church, I have a number of people that I need you to pray for: 1. My friend Milton is working on being able to eat solid food. You have prayed for him on 7-19-19 and again on 10-21-19 while he was in ICU at Queens Hospital for over 3 months. Please continue to pray for his full recovery. 2. My friend Augie had a major stroke. Please pray for him to recover to the point of being able to fly to Maui for his birthday during September 2020. 3. Please pray for our world as we work together during this Corona Virus crisis. Praising God for the positives that's happening amid the crisis! Thank you all for praying. Sincerely, Carmelynn Tan (Annual visitor from Oahu during PBC's Candle Light Service and sister of Grace Shimabuku)

Update from Pastor Paul for Lynn Becker: I have a Praise for PBC!!! Lynn Becker called & shared that she got back the results of Han's CT Scan & it is clear! There is no mass, no return of cancer!!! Let's rejoice with them & thank our Lord.

Janet Kroger: I'm missing my church family but I'm laying low. I'm having breathing issues and on inhalers and a zpack. Please pray for me.

Update from Lovena Love: My Dad is better. My Sister Samantha is with him. Than my daughter Rose will do 2pm-8pm. His lower extremities are in need of prayers. Thank goodness when they check for a pulse, they always find one. Peter Arruiza appreciates all your prayers.

Shawn Racoma: Can you put Jessie on the prayer chain? She's 81 years old. She's an acquaintance's mom who is in an assisted living home that was potentially exposed to COVID by a nurse last Wed. She's been in isolation for 5 days. Please pray she's ok. I would appreciate it.

Update from Laura Newell: My aunt was released from the hospital Saturday afternoon. Her doctors were amazed by her speedy recovery. Many thanks for your prayers, Laura

Shawn Racoma: Can you add my friend Willy to the prayer chain? He is saved and he was just tested positive with Corona virus. Pray for his family's protection and for him to pull through.

Update from Iris Ginoza (Friday): Dr. Barbarosh passed away last night. Please be in prayer for his family and staff as they grieve.

Dearest Brothers and Sisters in CHRIST, Praying for all you during this time that you're all safe and healthy and may our LORD give you peace and comfort! I miss all of your smiling faces! 1 John 5: 14 -15 "And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him." PRAISE GOD for answering our prayers! I wanted to thank you all for praying for me all these weeks as I waited for my lab results from 2/25. My follow up appt was today which was over the phone and my dr. gave me the best news ever! My lab results came back normal and high platelet count is a thing of the past. It's now within normal range and I'm sooo thrilled! No more daily aspirin! I will have another blood draw in July to see if all is still well!!! Your prayers and well wishes gave me so so much peace and comfort. I definitely felt it! Love you all!!! Please take care of yourself! With love in JESUS, Linda

Prayer Chain

If you would like to be added to our prayer chain email list, please contact the church office at pbcmaui@hawaii.rr.com.