

Volume 19 Number 3

OUR 19TH YEAR OF SERVING GOD'S SERVANTS

MAY/JUNE 2015

OUR 1ST ESM PAL WORKSHOP

Chris Rapazinni, professor of pastoral studies at Moody Bible Institute Spokane, spoke to twenty attendees of our first Pastors' and Leaders' workshop held at Valley Bible Church in Spokane Valley. Chris encouraged variety in expository preaching and emphasized the effectiveness of a focused message. Ray Paulson shared opportunities to reach children through CEF and Mark Kennedy presented opportunities for unique outreach and training for rural churches.

We shared the heart and focus of Eagle Summit. We were all challenged to stay faithful to God's calling on our lives. Pastoring is a challenge and blessing.



Jim Plunkitt encouraged all to stay focused on preaching the Word and communicating the truth of the Gospel. Too many men are ignoring the power of both. The Gospel must remain our emphasis.





Waiting on God . . . It May Not Be What You Think

Isaiah 40:31 is familiar to most believers and is the key verse for our ministry. You may have noticed that the NIV translates the word "wait" as "hope." Both translations are correct. The connection between waiting and hoping is clear when we understand the meaning of "hope" in scripture.

The idea of waiting is generally counter to our nature. We want what we want and we want it NOW! Our culture tends to be frustrated having to wait so long at the microwave. God does want us to learn to wait for His direction and His timing, but there is more to His "waiting" than we commonly understand. There is value in delaying expectations. We tend to appreciate the result much more when we must wait. Instant gratification is never satisfied.

The Hebrew word in this verse means to wait, to expect, to look for eagerly. It does not mean to sit around and twiddle our thumbs. It dos not mean to do nothing. Our English word "hope" has taken on a different meaning than the scriptural intent. Our idea of "hope" implies "maybe," "possibly." It is "a feeling of expectation and desire for a certain thing to happen." Some synonyms are a "desire, wish, expectation, aim, goal, pipe dream." None of these fit the biblical definition of "HOPE." Biblical "HOPE" is "confident expectation." When we say, "My HOPE is Heaven," this is not a wish, a pipe dream, or a maybe thing, it is our CONFIDENT EXPECTATION, based on Christ's finished work on the Cross.

When we wait or hope in the Lord, we are confidently expecting Him to work in our lives through the natural or the supernatural. We are expecting Him to do great and mighty things above what we ask or think. Do we have that Bible hope, or is our hope the cross-your-fingers kind? Are we waiting on God, confidently expecting Him to work in and through us? When we see the world falling apart around us, we need to redouble our confidence in the Creator and Sustainer of life. This is a reminder to expect Him to act in accordance to His will and to be prepared to be used by Him.

STAY FAITHFUL, STAY FAITHFUL, STAY FAITHFUL.

WHEN YOU FEEL DISCOURAGED, WAIT/HOPE & BE REMINDED OF PAUL'S WORDS:

2 Corinthians 4:1, 8, 16 "Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart. We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day." Galatians 6:9 "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."

Praise & Pray with Us . . .

| Continue to pray for LaRae Damschen as she undergoes surgery early this month. She needs God's special |
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| encouragement, strength and wisdom as she seeks to sell her house and property. |
| Diane continues to be free of pneumonia symptoms. Her asthma has been the most recent challenge. She |
| has to do 3 to 4 breathing treatments a day, to keep things under control. |
| G2 is doing well. He has lost over 100 pounds and has undergone some knee procedures to relieve pain. He |
| is having some procedure this week on his spine as well to relieve pain. |
| Praise—Lake Roosevelt Bible Church has a new Pastor, Drew Johnson. |
| Continue to pray that two new churches will officially partner with us. |
| ☐ Pray that we will continue to be effective in ministry and meet needs of |
| those we serve and for safety as we travel. |





Thoughts from Diane . . . First Love

One of our pastor's spoke this past Sunday morning of love, godly love. When he talked about our first love, memories assailed me. Memories I hadn't recounted in a long time. Those memories were of growing up in my family. Everyone has a different home life. My dad was a heavy drinker during my young

life. He had a bad temper and I was afraid to cross him. My Mom took care of us to the best of her ability. She was there to take the load of care for all of us when Dad wasn't and for that I was thankful. I don't have any memory of being held, hugged or kissed. Somehow I knew being cared for made me feel secure, thanks to my Mom.

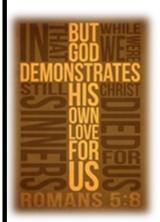
As I look back before I came to know Christ, I can clearly see different times when God intervened and sent people across my path that caused me to wonder who God was. Those times are still vivid in my mind. My Mother actually felt it was important to send us to church. She didn't attend herself but that's when I started wondering about God. There was the Sunday school teacher that stopped by our house and invited us to church. There was the neighbor girl who invited me to Bible school one summer.

My Great Aunt was a Catholic Nun. I began to wonder more when I became very ill and was afraid to die. I thought I might want to become a nun myself because I wanted to know more and thought that was the way.



When I started the ninth grade, a girl in school who took the message of Christ's sacrifice seriously, invited me to a youth activity. Marlene was a new Christian herself. September 12, 1963 I attended that youth activity and learned about Jesus. I knew something separated me from God and that night Pastor Don put a name to what that was. My sinfulness created that separation from Him and Jesus took the punishment for my sin through His death on the cross. His blood was shed for me. Through the grace of God in giving his son Jesus I was no longer separated from Him. That night, everything changed. The darkness was gone, that horrible burden was lifted and God turned a light on in a very black sky. He opened the floodgates and filled me with so much love I thought I would burst. I'd met my first love, a love that dwells in me to this day. I John 4: 19 "We love because He first loved us."

I can say that God through Christ transferred so much love into my soul that I recognized that



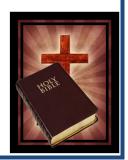
my life couldn't be the same. I knew that if I ever married and had children there would be plenty of hugs, kisses and listening ears. I can't begin to tell you what a transformation happened. There were times I failed to live for Christ as I should, but God was patient, teaching me more about who He is. He never gave up on this one lost sinner. If you haven't met Christ, make today the day. He died for you just as He did for me. If you know Him, please, be a Marlene and share what you know with others and continue to pray for people you know who still need forgiveness. Thank you, Jesus. Thank you, Marlene.

1 Corinthians 15:58 Standing Firm, Diane

Our Continuing Mission Is To . . .

"Serve God's Servants"





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We continue to seek the Lord's direction in regard to developing a ministry partnering with the Pastoral Studies Program at Moody Bible Institute Spokane. We are seeking interested and passionate young men with a heart to serve to. Having a fuel efficient vehicle available for students to use would be a great benefit. Pray with us and share your ideas. If you have a vehicle available, let us know.

Where We've Been, What We've Been Up to & Where We're Headed Next...

February 1—Lake Roosevelt Bible Church, Seven Bays, WA

February 7—ESM Board Meeting

February 8—Mending Fences Fellowship, Leadership Meeting, Spokane, WA

February 15—Sprague Community Church, Sprague, WA

February 22—Community Bible Fellowship, Kettle Falls, WA

March 16—Mending Fences Fellowship, Leadership Meeting, Spokane, WA

April 18—PAL Workshop, Valley Bible Church, Spokane Valley, WA

April 20 / May 6—Leadership Meeting, Mending Fences Fellowship, Spokane, WA

April 5—Northpointe Retirement Center, Spokane, WA

July 12-16 / 19-25—Cocolalla Lake Bible Camp, Cocolalla Lake, ID

July 25—Fernwood Community Church, Fernwood, ID / Community Outreach



We Are Available for Pulpit Supply, Even on Short Notice.

Need a speaker for a creative outreach program, AWANA or Kid's Clubs, Sunday School, teen or kid's camps other special events? Contact us. We are here to serve.

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