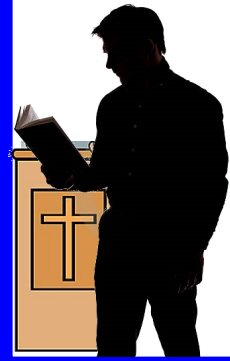


Our Continuing Mission Focuses On . . .

# “Serving God’s Servants”



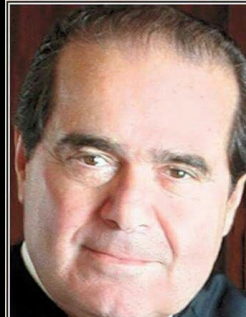
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[.eaglesummitministry.org](http://eaglesummitministry.org)



God assumed from the beginning that the wise of the world would view Christians as fools...and He has not been disappointed....If I have brought any message today, it is this: Have the courage to have your wisdom regarded as stupidity. Be fools for Christ. And have the courage to suffer the contempt of the sophisticated world.

— Antonin Scalia —

AZ QUOTES

Eagle Summit Ministry 4

If you would rather receive our bi-monthly newsletter (6 times yearly) by email rather than a hard copy, please let me know by contacting us at [ghippe@eaglesummitministry.org](mailto:ghippe@eaglesummitministry.org). We will work on developing an email list of partners.

**CHECK OUT THIS WEB SITE FOR GREAT GOSPEL TRACTS THAT PEOPLE WILL READ: MOMENTS WITH THE BOOK / [mwtb.org](http://mwtb.org)**

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

3rd Monday monthly—Mending Fences Fellowship, Leadership Team, Spokane, WA (Hippe)  
3 Sundays/month through October —Wayne Morris, Sprague Community Church, Sprague, WA  
July 18-22—Pend Oreille Bible Camp, (3rd-6th graders) Newport , WA (Hippe)  
August 7, September 4, October 2—CBF, Kettle Falls, WA (Morris)  
August 21—Blanchard Community Church, Blanchard, ID (special outreach service)  
October 29 —ESM board meeting, New Hope Bible Church  
CONTINUING TO ASSIST WITH FINDING SPEAKERS AT CBF IN KETTLE FALLS AND SPRAGUE COMMUNITY CHURCH

**WE ARE AVAILABLE FOR PULPIT SUPPLY EVEN ON SHORT NOTICE.**

**Do you need assistance with Creative outreach programs, AWANA or Kid’s Clubs, Sunday School, Family Camp, Teen or Kid’s camps or other special events? Contact us. We are here to serve.**

**Executive Director: Rev. George Hippe \* 10817 E. 16TH AVENUE, SPOKANE VALLEY, WA 99206**

Office/Cell: 509.995.6777 \* E-ddress: [ghippe@eaglesummitministry.org](mailto:ghippe@eaglesummitministry.org) \* [www.eaglesummitministry.org](http://www.eaglesummitministry.org)  
“SERVING GOD’S SERVANTS”

Eagle Summit Ministry

CHALLENGING & ENCOURAGING  
small and rural churches  
and their pastors.  
FRESH ideas  
prayer PARTNERING  
Family get-aways  
preaching, teaching & training



OUR 26TH YEAR OF ESM MINISTRY

Volume 26 Number 5

STRIVING TO SERVE GOD’S SERVANTS

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2022

## It’s a CALLING, not a “JOB”

I recently attended the memorial service for Betty Starr. Pastor Tom and Betty Starr served the Lord at Valley 4<sup>th</sup> church which Pastor Tom founded in 1972 and Valley Christian School founded in 1974. I had the privilege of serving with Pastor Tom for eight years. We talked twice about his partnering with Eagle Summit to challenge churches to focus on missions. Betty served on our board for ten years before health challenges limited her. I was reminded at Betty’s memorial how much of a team ministry their service was.

I know that Eagle Summit would not exist without my wife, Diane’s, faithful support and encouragement over the past 26 years. Without Diane, Eagle Summit would not exist. In the pastorate especially, wives are essential to a thriving and meaningful ministry. That is one of the things that makes vocational ministry so unique. The pastorate is not a “job,” it is a calling. What “job” is there that requires a wife’s involvement for success?

One church in which we served, the pastor was admonished by a leader who said, “We pay you to,” and then a recited list of duties. The pastor’s response was, “Is that all you expect me to do? Actually, you provide me with an income so I can do what I know the Lord wants me to do.” A pastor is not to be a lackey. In many of the small and rural churches, the pastor and his wife do many menial tasks, but most of the time it is because they want to, not because it is part of a job description. Mowing the lawn, repairing plumbing, construction projects, driving the bus, nursery duty, playing the piano, singing, repairing sound equipment, or digging a grave in the church cemetery, these duties and others are hopefully not part of ministry service expectations.

What job depends on one having a right relationship with God? The pastorate does. If a pastor’s relationship with God is not what it should be, that will be reflected in daily interaction with others and in his messages. One pastor I knew became so angry with staff members that he punched holes in walls and doors. That’s probably not what Jesus would do. That was evidence that there was a relationship problem with his Creator. He’s no longer at that church.

What job depends on keeping short sin accounts with God and making things right with Him and anyone that may have been sinned against? The pastorate does. If sin takes root in one’s life and there is a refusal to confess (say the same thing God says about my sin), that too will be reflected eventually in the pulpit. The Holy Spirit uses a sensitive heart and humble attitude to influence others with the truth of scripture.

What job depends on staying in God’s word and living out the principles of Scripture? The pastorate does. Unlike many government leaders who have demanded that we follow specific guidelines “for our own good,” but don’t follow their own instructions, the shepherd of God’s flock cannot make such demands and be respected. If a pastor fails to keep in the word of God and grow in his spirit, he will have nothing of value to share with God’s people but stories. As the truth of God’s word is interwoven into a pastor’s heart, he will be able to communicate that truth to others. The pastor’s walk and talk must match. Few if any other jobs requires that.

What job depends on a man having a right relationship with his wife? The pastorate does. I am unaware of any other job responsibility that requires that, but that is a scriptural requirement for biblical shepherding. I had a pastor phone one Saturday night and ask if I could fill the pulpit for him the next day. He confessed that he had just had a terrible fight with his wife, and he knew he was not fit to get into the pulpit the next morning. He understood that truth. I could not fill his pulpit because I was already scheduled to speak at another church. We prayed together over the phone and thankfully he humbled himself and made things right with his wife and was able to get into the pulpit the next morning. No other job requires that.



What job depends on having my finances in order? The pastorate does. Scripture makes clear that a pastor needs to be responsible with finances in his own home if he expects to be part of the stewardship responsibility in a ministry. Financial temptations can be one of the strongest and most destructive the enemy can use to derail a ministry. I'm certain you are aware of ministries that no longer exist because of financial irresponsibility and dishonesty. Many of the pastors we work with are bi-vocational. This adds an extra challenge to keep the balance between home, church and employment.

What job depends on having the children in my home honoring us as parents? The pastorate does. Managing one's home is a basic requirement to manage the church. Titus 1:6 and 1 Timothy 3:4-5 make this clear. One pastor I know stepped down from the pastorate for a time when he realized he had a teenage child who rebelled against his authority and refused to do what was right. I have great respect for this man. He understood his responsibility before God. No other job would ask that.

I have encouraged young men who are considering vocational ministry not to pursue ministry if they can do anything else and be fulfilled. A pastor is on call 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. There is personal study required, sermon and teaching preparation, marriage and personal counselling, weddings, funerals, budgeting, planning, prayer times and of course the unexpected. This is only a partial list. Added to this, many pastors have part time employment outside the church to meet the needs of their family.

One pastor of a larger church said to me that the hardest ministry he ever had was in a small church. The challenge is great, but so too is the reward. If God has called a man and his wife to serve there is no greater calling. There is no excitement in serving in a rural community or small church in the U.S. as a missionary to Peru, China, France, Papua New Guinea, or some other foreign field. To give your life to a small farming community or inner-city area and reach people there with the Gospel is just as necessary.

Vocational ministry is not a "JOB," it is a calling. Pray for your pastor, his wife and family regularly. Thank God for their faithfulness and at times their thankless service for eternity. Is there some kindness you can show them with a card, an email, a text of thanks? Do what God leads you to do. **Don't wait to say "THANK YOU."**

## YOU AND/OR YOUR CHURCH CAN PARTNER THROUGH PRAYER AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT

I served with Jon and Michelle Cramer on mission trips to Peru. They love the Lord and have a heart to serve. They have three children: Benjamin, Jacob and Elizabeth. They met in 2004 at Camp Gilead, a Christian camp in western Washington. Jon worked at Camp Gilead for 5 summers and spent one year interning there. Michelle worked at Camp Gilead for 2 summers. It was at Camp Gilead where they developed a passion for camp ministry. They saw, heard, and experienced first-hand how camp ministry can be used as a tool to disciple and train leaders and help strengthen the local church.

Pastors in Nicaragua face unique challenges. When they visited churches in Nicaragua, they learned from pastors that the challenge is for Nicaraguans to take on the responsibility of building, strengthening, and leading the church. Without "faithful men, who will be able to teach others," this is impossible. By God's grace they are going to Nicaragua to strengthen the church through leadership, evangelism, and discipleship training through camp ministry.

**Contact Information:** Jon: (253) 686-1139 jon.cramer@abwe.cc Michelle: (509) 951-3886 michelle.cramer@abwe.cc **Website Information:** www.CampCramer.wordpress.com **Giving Information:** Jon and Michelle Cramer – Account # 0170711 – www.abwe.org/give or by mail to: ABWE Donor Services, PO Box 8585, Harrisburg, PA 17105

**PRAY & GIVE AS GOD DIRECTS YOU. YOU WILL BE INVESTING IN ETERNITY.**



## UNLOCKING THE MYSTERIES OF GENESIS

PRESENTED BY INSTITUTE FOR CREATION RESEARCH

If you are in the Spokane area there is still time to register

Fourth Memorial Church, 2000 N Standard, Spokane, WA

Friday, October 14—6:30 AM—9:00 PM

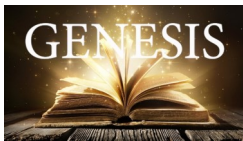
Saturday, October 15—8:45 AM—5:00 PM

October 16— Sunday afternoon field trip (\$15 extra fee)

ADULTS (18+) - \$15 / STUDENTS (1ST-12TH GRADE) \$5 (SPECIAL YOUTH SESSIONS)

SPONSORED BY ALPHA MINISTRIES / TO REGISTER ON LINE: [alphaministries.us](http://alphaministries.us)

OR SEND CHECK TO: ALPHA MINISTRIES / PO BOX 97, MEDICAL LAKE, WA 99022 / 509.299.5595 \* OFFICE



## Thoughts from Dawna . . . Relationship With Shame



There's an Internet article posted earlier this year called, "15 Things We Need To Stop Shaming Each Other About". Some of the 15 things listed are appearance, skin color, sexuality, and masculinity or femininity. Over recent years there has been a noticeable shift toward labeling shame, like *body shaming* or *gender shaming*. In my own life, I can recall times that I felt ashamed, which is a familiar feeling for most of us.

### Owning Your Shame

Each time I feel shame, the most productive action I can take is to ask myself, "What is the source of my shame, humiliation, or distress?" Am I aware of these feelings because of my own wrongdoing or foolish behavior? If the answer is yes, then there's a legitimate reason for the shame.

### The Purpose of Shame

Our society craves the elimination of shame. Why? Because shame is the result of sinful behavior. Should you be ashamed that you're overweight? Not necessarily, but if your unhealthy weight is the result of wrong or foolish behavior like eating too much or being physically lazy then, yes. Without shame, we have zero sense of our own wrongdoings or sin.

### Society Can't Erase Your Shame

Society says, "Stop shaming me!" Meaning, whatever I am, whatever my character, whoever I appear to be, and whatever I appear to be doing, can all be done without shame and without any comment or question from you. I don't need you to make me feel ashamed. The word shame comes up a lot in the Bible. One instance is found in Psalm 25:3.



*No one who hopes in you will ever be put to shame, but shame will come on those who are treacherous without cause.*

Society attempts to validate your shame, but it cannot erase it or attend to the root cause. All throughout the Psalms David's plea was for God to instill shame in his enemies or remove shame from him. Nothing and no one else could do that. David couldn't free himself from shame, and he knew that, but his shame did bring him closer to his Savior. Society cannot remove your shame. A life of shamelessness is a rejection of God because only God can deliver us from our shame. Recognizing our shame (and knowing the source), as David did, brings us closer to God. Only God can move you from shame to redemption. Only God.



### PLEASE PRAY WITH US

- Pray for Pastor Kevin Chen and his wife, Janell, as Kevin faces serious health challenges.
- Please continue to pray for our son, G2, as he deals with continuing health issues.
- Pray for the leadership at Sprague Community Church in Sprague, WA and Community Bible Fellowship in Kettle Falls, WA as they seek God's direction for a pastor.
- Praise—effective ministry at summer camp near Newport, WA and recent outreach Sunday at Blanchard Community Church in Blanchard, ID.
- Pray for Pastor Randy Anderson and his wife Lynn, as Randy recovers from illness.