

Our Continuing Mission Focuses On . . .

“Serving God’s Servants”



Eagle Summit Ministry
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Eagle Summit Ministry 4

HAVE A
BLESSED
2023

IN THIS NEW YEAR, MAY WE REMEMBER THAT WE ARE SPIRIT BEINGS OCCUPYING A TEMPORARY SPACE FOR A MOMENT IN TIME. WHY ARE WE SO OCCUPIED WITH THE TEMPORAL THAT WE OFTEN NEGLECT THE ETERNAL? LIVE EACH DAY UNTO THE LORD AND AS IF IT MAY BE YOUR LAST HERE ON EARTH. IT MAY BE.

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)
- November 13—CBF Kettle Falls, WA (Hippe)
- December 4, 11, 18— CBF, Kettle Falls, WA (Morris)
- December 18— Lake Roosevelt Bible Church, 7 Bays, WA (Hippe)
- January thru February—Pulpit supply at CBF, Kettle Fall, WA / several local men are assisting as well as Wayne Morris and George Hippe
- March 4—ESM board meeting at New Hope Bible Church, Spokane Valley
- PRAISE:** Sprague Community Church—Pastor Bob Bridges and his wife Pam are once again serving in Sprague, WA.

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.

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“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 27TH YEAR OF ESM MINISTRY

Volume 27 Number 1

STRIVING TO SERVE GOD’S SERVANTS

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2023

NUTS!

Beginning the night of December 20, 1944, all seven highways leading to the southern Belgian city of Bastogne were cut off by German airborne and armored infantry forces in what became known as the Battle of the Bulge. The U.S. 101st Airborne troops defending Bastogne were encircled and outnumbered 5 to 1. They lacked cold-weather gear, ammunition, food, medical supplies, and senior leadership. Due to the worst winter weather in memory, the surrounded U.S. forces could not be resupplied by air nor was tactical air support available due to cloudy weather.

Most of the initial German forces moved to the front, leaving two German regiments to hold the crossroads. On the 22nd of December German General von Lüttwitz sent the demand for surrender to the commander of the American forces in Bastogne, General Anthony McAuliffe. On Christmas day, McAuliffe sent this famous one word response to the German commander, “NUTS.” This reply initially confused the Germans.

Elements of Patton’s Third Army reached Bastogne within two days to free the trapped 101st troops. By December 27th, U.S. Ground communications were restored, troops supplied, and the wounded evacuated. When faced with unspeakable challenges in life, sometimes, “NUTS” can be one of our best responses.

We ARE at war. The enemy is real. At times we are surrounded by heartache and pain, evil and chaos. There’s no way out. The enemy has captured our peace. He demands that we surrender to our fears and uncertainties. We can focus on those fears or concentrate on our Commander who promises us His resupply of peace. When the clouds of doubt evaporate away and the sunlight of truth reappears, we see more clearly the truth of God’s word. We can respond with certainty, with HOPE, with confident assurance, that our Commander is in charge. It is the enemy of our soul who attempts to keep us surrounded, to keep us in what appears to be a hopeless situation. He whispers, “No one is there. No one cares. It’s hopeless.” He knows it’s a lie, but he also knows that if we listen to him long enough, we will begin to believe his lie.

God is **THERE**. God is **AWARE**. God does **CARE**. He is **THERE** to encourage us through the truth of His Word. He is **AWARE** we need the encouragement of fellow soldiers. You encourage us. He does **CARE** enough to supply us with the HOPE we need to be renewed each day. The HOPE we rely on is not a maybe HOPE, it is not a cross my fingers HOPE, it is not a wish upon a star HOPE. This is a HOPE that can penetrate the clouds of doubt and confusion and resupply us

with just what we need when we need it. This is a HOPE founded upon the very character of God, His love, His faithfulness, and His promises to meet all our needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:19). I write these words to remind myself.

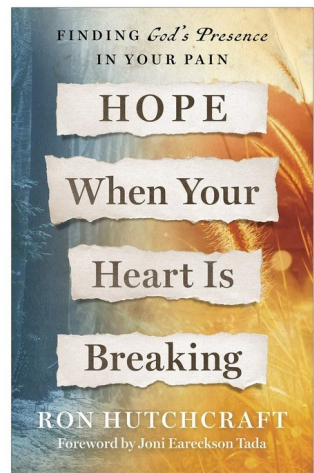
HOPE involves waiting. This is an unusual kind of waiting. It is a waiting with a certainty of the outcome. We do not see and understand the details, but we can trust the God of tomorrow to see us through today. “This is my comfort in my affliction (sorrow, loss, pain), for Your Word has given me life.” Psalm 119:50

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Some of you are also enduring unspeakable loss. Loved ones have entered eternity before us and we are left here. We see our separation as tragedy. They see this as triumph. We view our separation as loss. They view it as gain. We no longer hear their voice. They hear the voice of God. Time without my life partner, Diane, and without our son, Ben, has been surreal. There have been moments when I've been busy working on a project and suddenly jolted back to the reality that I will never again see the love of my life or our son here on this present earth. We can no longer plan family events together or travel together or pray together or walk together. There are tears. Then I remember, I'm here to continue to serve God, to serve others and that each new day brings you and me one day closer to Heaven and to those who have already entered eternity.

Our need may be emotional, our need may be relational, our need may be financial, our need may be physical, God is there to resupply us daily with just what we need. There is no storm, there is no seemingly impossible situation, there is no enemy that our God is powerless to control. We can lay down and surrender to the enemy or we can look that liar in the face and say, "NUTS!" I will not believe your lies. I will not surrender. I will not quit. I will not give in to your attempts to discourage me, to depress me, to defeat me. I will trust God. I will take Him at His Word. I will believe the God who has given me eternal HOPE. I pray that in this **New Year** you too will be able through the power of the Spirit of God to do the same. Bathe your soul in the **PSALMS**.



I HIGHLY RECOMMEND THIS BOOK BY RON HUTCHCRAFT. HE SPEAKS FROM EXPERIENCE AFTER THE DEATH OF HIS WIFE, KAREN. HE UNDERSTANDS THE BATTLES FACED IN THE ADVERSITIES OF LIFE.

**Thank You Dr. Rodkey for Serving with Us
"Well Done, Good and Faithful Servant."**

Dr. George William Rodkey, 99

Early Wednesday morning, November 30th 2022, Dr. George Rodkey entered Heaven. Dr. Rodkey was an amazing husband, father, brother, physician, friend, and godly example. He died one month shy of 100. He was the first board president of Eagle Summit, serving with us for ten years.

Dr. and Mrs. Rodkey often hosted board meetings at their home in Post Falls, ID. Dr. Rodkey took a chance on assisting a fledgling ministry that could easily have never made it out of the nest. Through his leadership and example, others were encouraged to support us making it possible for Eagle Summit to fly, to serve pastors and leaders of small and rural churches. As part of his encouragement, for the first seven years, I also served as a chaplain with the Spokane County Sheriff's Office.

Dr. Rodkey was there to help us through some challenging life situations, including Diane's early health complications and the death of our son, Ben. Dr. Rodkey had no human reason to become such an important part of Eagle Summit, but God obviously laid it on his heart to serve, lead and partner with us. We are so grateful for the godly legacy Dr. Rodkey has left and the impact he has had directly and indirectly on dozens of churches here in the Inland Northwest. Thank you for being a friend, an encourager and a godly leader.



Thoughts from Dawna . . . "Died Suddenly and Unexpectedly"

The phrase "died suddenly" or "died suddenly and unexpectedly" has been hitting the mainstream news more often lately. I've been focused on the rising number of sudden and unexpected deaths for months now as I've sought out news sources that aren't hiding or burying this information. While this isn't a story about conspiracy theories or fear mongering, I do encourage you to do one simple thing. Use your go-to Internet browser and type in the phrase, "died suddenly." See what you find and before coming to any specific conclusions, think about the sudden and unexpected in your own life. If the results of your Internet search get you to think about bigger things, that's good. There's no need for you to fear the truth, even when you don't like what you're finding when you start to look for it.



Life is full of the sudden and unexpected, yet we go about every day as though familiarity and routine are what will guide us along and keep us comfortable. We continually settle for whatever all those things are and have been that we've ruttled into our behaviors with the simple soothing thought that, "I'm doing exactly what I'm supposed to be doing," but then sometimes the startling and unanticipated happens. So, why do we go on everyday only anticipating the ho-hum?

The more I began thinking about a sudden and unexpected death, the more I wanted to counteract that with exactly the opposite idea. These types of phrases are used repeatedly for two reasons. First, it concisely explains the situation. Secondly, there's shock value when most of us don't live our lives expecting anyone to appear to be perfectly healthy and vibrant one minute and then just drop dead. So, what would happen if we lived suddenly and unexpectedly instead?

YOUR LIFE

2 Kings 2:11 "As they (Elisha and Elijah) were walking along and talking together, suddenly a chariot of fire and horses of fire appeared and separated the two of them, and Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind."

Read all of chapter 2 in II Kings. I assure you that Elijah and his son were living their lives for the sudden and unexpected. Take a cue from the people who weren't born for comfort, routine, safety, and security. Think about what that kind of life would look like for you. These aren't just stories that are there so you can name heroes of the Bible and think of them in awe and reverence. The Bible = personal responsibility and personal application, not people and things that are untouchable. They just lived suddenly and unexpectedly.

YOUR ENEMIES

Psalm 6:10 "All my enemies will be overwhelmed with shame and anguish; they will turn back and suddenly be put to shame."

If you truly have an enemy who is pursuing evil, they also are an enemy of God. God's promise to us is that one day they will suddenly be put to shame. Evil doesn't live suddenly and unexpectedly. Evil will one day die and be put to shame suddenly and unexpectedly. That is God's promise so that our fight for what is good, and just, and pure, is never without a reason. That's why we need to live every day of our lives for the sudden and unexpected.

2 Corinthians 1:11 "You help us by your prayers. . ."

- Pray for our son, "G2," who continues to struggle with pain and changes in medications that are still having negative side-affects.
- Pray for our friend, Pastor Kevin Che'n and his wife Janell, as they face Pastor Kevin's dialysis treatments and ultimately a kidney transplant.
- Continue to pray for God to help us plan for the future of ESM and a Timothy to partner with us.
- PRAISE: All financial needs have been met for 2022. Thanks to you, our ministry is debt-free.

