

Our Continuing Mission Focuses On . . .

# “Serving God’s Servants”



Eagle Summit Ministry  
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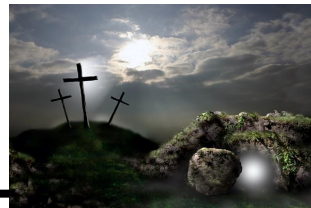
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[.eaglesummitministry.org](http://www.eaglesummitministry.org)

Eagle Summit Ministry 4

## THE BODILY RESURRECTION OF JESUS IS VERIFICATION OF HIS COMPLETED WORK ON THE CROSS.

“But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is worthless, and so is your faith . . .” 1 Thessalonians 5:12-14



## 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)
- January thru February—Pulpit supply at CBF, Kettle Fall, WA / local men along with Morris and Hippe
- January 29, February 5, 12—Country Bible Church, Dusty, WA—Hippe
- We will be providing pulpit supply at CBC, Dusty until God gives them a pastor—Morris/Hippe
- March 4—ESM board meeting at New Hope Bible Church, Spokane Valley
- April 9—Mending Fences Resurrection Sunday Outreach, Spokane, WA—Hippe

**PRAISE:** Community Bible Church, Kettle Falls, WA —Pastor Mark Liesch and his wife Cindy arrive March 4th.  
July 1—Cedonia Community Church, Cedonia, WA—Community outreach ministry—Hippe

### 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 2

STRIVING TO SERVE GOD’S SERVANTS

MARCH/APRIL 2023

## THE HUMAN SPIRIT

We were created in the image of God, Genesis 1. We know God is spirit, and his worshipers must “worship in the Spirit and in truth.” John 4:24 We may be missing an important truth when we refer to humans as a body with a soul and a spirit. From a scriptural perspective, we are spirit beings, created in the image of God. God the Father does not have the limits of a human form. Man is a spirit being with a soul and a temporary earthly form we call a body. It may seem like a technical difference, but it can make a huge difference in how we prioritize our lives.

The words *spirit* and *breath* are translations of the Hebrew word *ruach*, or the Greek word *pneuma*. The words mean “strong wind, blast, or inspiration.” *Ruach* is the source of life (Job 33:4). The apostle Paul said, “Who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the man’s spirit within him?” (1 Corinthians 2:11). We cannot see the wind, we cannot see an atom, we cannot see electricity, we cannot see magnetism, but by indirect evidence, we know all these exist. Though we cannot see the spirit, it is real.

Those who reject the reality of design and purpose in our world and reject a Creator God, believe that humans are the product of time and chance. Man is an animal, not a spirit being. To them, man is simply a combination of electrical impulses and chemicals reactions. At death, humans are simply nonexistent. The biblical truth of “once to die and after this the judgement” is a religious fairy tale. They would say, “Face reality when you are dead, you’re dead. Deal with it.” This is their “reality,” their belief. Animals do not seek a relationship with God.

I have heard some believers say there are times when they feel like they don’t belong here on earth. I am sensing that more and more personally. That very well may be the cry of our spirit. We are pilgrims in a foreign and temporary realm. 1 Peter 2:11 “Beloved, I beg you as sojourners and pilgrims, . . .” Hebrews 11:13 “All these died in faith, without receiving the promises, but having seen them and having welcomed them from a distance, and having confessed that they were strangers and exiles on the earth.” Philippians 3:20-21 “For our citizenship is in Heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.” It is in eternity that our spirit will be reunited with a perfect body. It is the spirit that longs for a relationship with our Creator. (CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)



The spirit is the essence of a person. The spirit is the part of man that is God conscious, the invisible reality that will live in Heaven after this life or exist in Hell where God is absent. Upon death the “spirit returns back to God who gave it” (Ecclesiastes 12:7; see also Job 34:14-15; Psalm 104:29-30). One’s spirit is the true person. 1 Thessalonians 5:23 “. . . may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.” The distinction of spirit and soul is clear in scripture. Can we accurately separate the two truths? No.

I understand the soul to be intellect, emotion, and will. I think of the soul as the “glue” that holds the spirit and body together. I am aware this is my simplified version of the soul but this helps me understand the distinction. We cannot separate the soul and spirit any more than we can separate flesh from blood, but the distinction is important as we face the challenges of life. Keeping the emphasis on the spirit of man can help us place a proper perspective on the eternal and not be consumed by the temporary pain and loss of today. “May the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.” If you have further biblical insight on this topic, please email or phone me. I am learning with you in this adventure on earth we call life.

### LAUGHTER IS GOOD MEDICINE

- What was Noah’s wife’s name? Many believe it was Joan, Joan of ark.
- Some Bible scholars contend that when Lot and his wife left Sodom and Gomorrah they were having a bit of a disagreement. That is why Lot yielded to the temptation and said to his wife, “Hey, dear, who is that following us.”
- CHURCH BULLETIN BLOOPER: “Barbara remains in the hospital and needs blood donors for more transfusions. She is also having trouble sleeping and requests tapes of Pastor Nelson’s sermons.”



APRIL 24-28, 2023

### ARK ENCOUNTER & CREATION MUSEUM

Travel by air from Spokane @ 7:00 AM to Cincinnati. We will be staying in Florence, KY for the entire tour.

**DAY 1 – CREATION MUSEUM** in Peterson KY. Explore stunning exhibits, dinosaur bones, fossils, botanical gardens, planetarium, zoo, zip line course and much more.

**DAY 2 –** Travel to the **ARK ENCOUNTER**. Dinner will be at a restaurant on site.

**DAY 3 –** Tour of the Cincinnati area seeing many historical churches, businesses, homes, and a tour of the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center.

**DAY 4 –** Lunch cruise on the Ohio River. Return to Spokane, arriving at 9:49 PM

Contact **ALPHA MINISTRIES** to check on availability.

OCTOBER 9-12, 2023

### MT ST HELENS CREATION TOUR



**Day 1** Enjoy a motor coach trip from Spokane through Columbia Gorge. Lunch, on your own, will be at the Dalles, OR. At our hotel we will enjoy dinner which is included.

**Day 2** After breakfast, provided, we will begin our adventure up the mountain with a guided tour stopping at the US Forest Service then having a picnic lunch, provided.

**Day 3** After breakfast, provided, we’ll visit the Creation Museum in Castle Rock, have lunch, on your own, and more touring of the area. Dinner will be provided then return to the hotel.

**Day 4** After breakfast, provided, we will begin our journey home by way of Mt Rainier where you can have lunch, on your own, before we continue to Spokane. **Other details and opportunities available.**



## Thoughts from Dawna . . . The Mass Production Of Prayer

Years ago, I was asked to play guitar on the music team for a Christian women’s retreat. Before each session the team would gather in a room at the back of the chapel to pray. I wasn’t new to this ritual, and yes, I call it a ritual, because for years I had been playing in the band at my church and prior to every service it was an unspoken requirement that we all pray together before going out onto the stage. The prayers were always the same, “*Lord, we want to use our talents for you...*” I’m pretty sure it was more about our perceived talents than anything else, but I digress. Now back to my story about the women’s retreat. Our team was gathered in this room at the back of the chapel and the women’s ministry coordinator asked one of the girls in our group, Lilly (name changed to protect the innocent) to lead the prayer. She said to her, “*Lily, your prayers are always so powerful, please lead us.*” Lilly then proceeds, “*Lord, God our Father, be with us today, Jesus. We cry out in Your Name to use Your Spirit to guide us to play our instruments for You, that lives would be changed through Your power Father God...*” I could go on, but I think you get the picture. These types of prayers make me extremely uncomfortable, and they’re made by men and women alike. They’re emotionally driven and routinely mislabeled as somehow powerfully leading others into prayer before God, yet we keep right on promoting them. It’s the ritualistic nature and repetitive jargon that pricks my spirit to say, *what are we doing?*



I compare a situation like this, which goes on in churches, retreats, and other Christian gatherings across America, to something of Biblical proportions. In 2 Chronicles chapter 6 Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord in front of the whole assembly of Israel and spread out his hands. He led a powerful prayer which began like this: 2 Chronicles 6:14, “*Lord, the God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven or on earth...*”

Here we have an example of an audible prayer, on a stage, before many people, and we can’t deny that Solomon was compelled to prayer by the Holy Spirit and to a Holy God, otherwise it wouldn’t have been documented. We are given this as an example and so we follow it or work to recreate something similar.



### Manufacturing And Mass-Producing Prayer (aka outsourcing prayer)

In general, most people just want assurance because it’s comfortable. We want our boss to tell us what the measure of success is, we follow the rules, and the eventual outcome is a pay raise, a pat on the back, and hopefully a promotion. As Christians we want the assurance of “doing the right thing”, and we can tend to put that emphasis in everything, including prayer, instead of the one thing that gives us Salvation and a relationship with God. Most of your conversations with God, the begging, pleading, questioning, petitioning, and WORSHIP should be between you and the Almighty. Prayer is not bloviating out loud, before people, on a stage or relegating it to a routine like making your bed or brushing your teeth.

Stop and ask yourself if ritualistic prayers before services, before and after sermons, before “worship,” before and after meals, before travels, is it all just for peace of mind? As in, “*Better safe than sorry*” or “*It certainly won’t hurt anything*”? Given the current state of our world and our nation, I’d say that most of these prayers, and our churches, are entirely ineffective and speak more to the dark state of our motives than it does to our relationship with God.

**The Takeaway** — Sometimes the comforts of the things that we think result in a neutral outcome are highly destructive and require personal repentance.

### 2 Corinthians 1:11 “You help us by your prayers. . .”



- Pray for our friend, Pastor Kevin Che’n and his wife Janell, as they face Pastor Kevin’s dialysis treatments and potential kidney transplant.
- Continue to pray for God to help us plan for the future of ESM and a Timothy to partner with us.
- Pray with our friends at Country Bible Church in Dusty, WA as they seek a new shepherd for their flock.