



## Searching for the Lord's Will

*Pastor Stephen Kaneshiro*

Lately, I feel like my memory is getting worse and worse. It is beginning to happen more frequently that I go into a room and I forget what I went in to that room to do or what I went in there to find. I am also finding myself misplacing things so often. I know that I just had an object, but now I can't remember where I put it down. Sometimes I will go back over areas that I have just searched thinking that I have missed something. If what I am searching for is important, I will search diligently until I get thoroughly frustrated. Then I will remember that as a follower of Jesus Christ, I can rest in Him.



Therefore, I will sit and relax and place my trust in the Lord.

I have also found that I occasionally work myself into a frenzy when I am desperately trying to discover the Lord's will about issues that I believe are vitally important. I have also found that in situations such as this, it is important that I rest in Him. *Psalm 46:10a (NLT)* <sup>10a</sup> "Be still, and know that I am God!" Being still and simply knowing that He is God and that He is in control, settles me down so that I can diligently and clearly sort through things and discover His will.

I have found that as I settle down and be still, that I can focus my thoughts on loving Him because of who He is and all that He has already done for me. I can then enter into a period of praise and worship to Him in a spirit of thankfulness. This creates within me an attitude that allows me to fall more deeply in love with the Lord. As I immerse myself in His love and grace, He begins to reveal His will to me. In the desperate and frantic spirits that I put myself into, there is nothing but fear, worry, and discord. Whenever I rest in Him by putting my love and trust in

Him, there is always peace.

In these days of COVID-19 distress, we need to find our rest and peace in Jesus Christ. We need to be still and know that He is God. He is our rock and our fortress. *Psalm 62:6-8 (NLT)* <sup>6</sup> He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress where I will not be shaken. <sup>7</sup> My victory and honor come from God alone. He is my refuge, a rock where no enemy can reach me. <sup>8</sup> O my people, trust in him at all times. Pour out your heart to him, for God is our refuge. Also, remember that He will never leave us nor forsake us. He will be with us, even through the valley of the shadow of death. His rod and His staff will guide and protect us. We do not have to fear because He has not given us a spirit of fear. He is our comfort and our provider. In Him is life and peace. We can trust in Him with all of our heart and we do not have to lean on our own understanding. In all of our ways, we can trust in Him and He will provide for us everything that we need to accomplish what He has set before us.



Yes, the battle may be fierce and the struggle may wear us down, but the battle is not ours. The battle belongs to the Lord and He will provide all that we need as we rest and trust in Him.

I confess to you that the ups and downs and the constant changes that surround how COVID-19 is impacting our lives, wears me down. The way so many disregard the orders that our community leaders are handing down for our protection, concerns

*(continued on next page)*

### IN THIS ISSUE:

- 1,2 Searching for the Lord's Will
- 2 Announcements
- 3 Mission News
- 4 Sermon Notes

# Searching for the Lord's Will

*Pastor Stephen Kaneshiro*

and frustrates me. However, I need to continually remind myself that I need to put my trust in the Lord and not in our community leaders and not even in the people who are showing disregard for our community leaders. Jesus is Lord of all and He is well able to handle all that surrounds us. We just need to be lovingly surrendered to Him and allow Him to work out His plan of mercy and grace during these unprecedented and difficult days. He loves us more than you can ever imagine and He will guide us and provide for us. God bless you all!

\* \* \* \* \*



Let your  
**Light So Shine**  
before men, that  
they may see your **GOOD WORKS,**  
AND *Glorify* your **FATHER**  
which is in Heaven.

Feel God pulling you into deeper fellowship with the family?  
Wondering how He could use you to

**LOVE GOD,  
LOVE HIS CHURCH,  
LOVE HIS WORLD?**

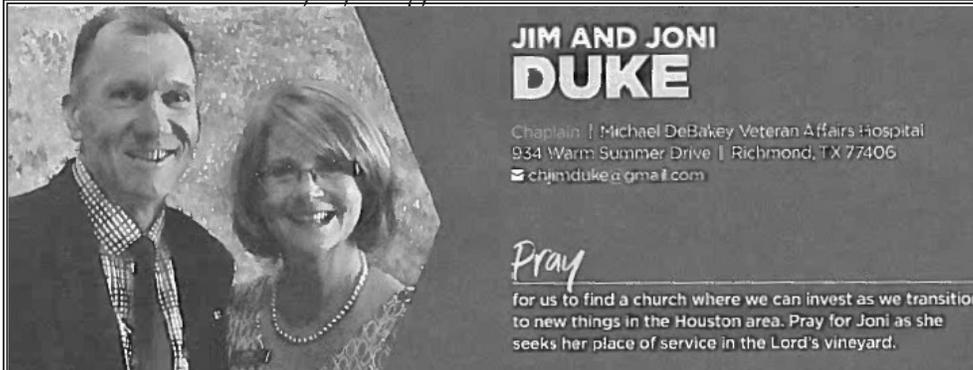
**WAYS to be INVOLVED:**  
MINISTRIES SMALL GROUPS  
CLEANING YARD WORK  
SETUP/BREAK/DOWN

**Contact the Church Office (244-0865) to get plugged in! Or see Neil Nakama**



# MISSION NEWS

## NAMB Missionary Spotlight:



### MIDWEST

Despite the region's image of good, hard-working, church-going residents, the vast majority do not have a relationship with Jesus. Many have never set foot in a church.

Pray for church planting and kingdom impact in the underserved communities in the Midwest that are challenged by violence, poverty, drugs, family dysfunction and other such social ills. Pray for the pastors and churches that are functioning effectively in these communities that God would send more workers into these places desperately in need of the hope of the gospel.



### International Mission Board

*Connecting in Prayer*

<https://www.imb.org/pray/>

\* **Fukuoka, Japan - (foo-koo-OH-kah)** - Pray that God will arrange for many Japanese to participate in the ministries of the West Japan Team and local partner churches during this unprecedented time of the COVID-19 pandemic. Pray that evangelism and discipleship will pick back up with in-person connections with local families through hospitality and English Bible classes as things are loosening little-by-little. Pray for fruitful, blessed, and sweet times that lead to salvation. Pray for God's full protection from the virus and from the evil one during ministry and church services times.

\* **Lasa of Coconut Island, Southeast Asia - (LAH-sah)** - Coconut Island is a diverse place with a mixture of ethnic groups and religions. For the most part, these groups live in harmony with each other. But the Lasa (pronounced LAH-sah) are the most marginalized people in all of Coconut Island. This Muslim people group has fled their homeland, a neighboring island country, to escape war and violence and have come to a land that does not accept them and treats them as outcasts. They are forced to live in poverty, and they build their homes over the water or in the jungles of the rainforest. Their children cannot go to public schools, and they struggle to find work. Because they are largely hated and because the Muslim religion is protected by law, many local believers refuse to share the good news with them. Among the 1.5 million Lasa, there are only a few believers. There is much work to be done among the Lasa. Please pray for the salvation of the Lasa of Coconut Island.

\* **Mongols of Outer Mongolia - (MON-gols)** - For 18 years, a believer has used a resource center library as a place for English teacher training, as a study center, and as a point of contact for new people in her small community. Through the years, people who have visited have commented about how peaceful it is. Because that location is now needed for a school room, it needs to be vacated by August 15. Please ask God to provide a new place for this library and ministry center.

\* **Northern African and Middle Eastern Unengaged Peoples** - The Beni Amir of Eritrea speak multiple languages. God's Word is available to them through social media and radio broadcasts. Thank God for the hard work that is going into developing these resources! Pray for men, women, youth, and children to gain access to the good news in their specific language. Pray that they will be introduced to the Son. "For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day"

# Consider Your Stuff

*Pastor Stephen Kaneshiro*

## *Matthew 6:19-24*

I. \_\_\_\_\_ Treasures. – *Matthew 6:19-21*

A. \_\_\_\_\_ you store your treasures.

B. \_\_\_\_\_ treasures you will store.

C. Your treasures \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_.

II. What you \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_. – *Matthew 6:22-23*

A. Importance of the \_\_\_\_\_ to the rest of the \_\_\_\_\_.

B. What your eye \_\_\_\_\_ affects the \_\_\_\_\_ of the body.

C. The eye can \_\_\_\_\_, while not really \_\_\_\_\_.

III. Who/What will \_\_\_\_\_ you. – *Matthew 6:24*

A. Something or someone will \_\_\_\_\_ over you.

B. Your \_\_\_\_\_ to one will affect \_\_\_\_\_ love for the other.

C. God will \_\_\_\_\_ or He will \_\_\_\_\_.

Notes: