

Heal the Man, Heal the Land

Mountain View Community Church

December 2022



Does God Still Heal Today?

Pastor Rob Gross

November 27, 2022

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives
and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed.*
(Luke 4:18 ESV)

Jesus still heals today like He did 2,000 years ago.

*Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today
and forever.* (Hebrews 13:8 ESV)

**Everywhere Jesus went He proclaimed the gospel
or good news of the kingdom. He healed the sick
and set free the spiritually oppressed and bound.**

[Jesus] went about doing good and **healing all** who
were oppressed by the devil,
for God was with him. (Acts 10:38 ESV)

[Jesus] went throughout all Galilee, teaching in
their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the
kingdom and **healing every disease and every
affliction among the people.** (Matthew 4:23 ESV)

**The kingdom of God was and is the power of God
to perform miracles.**

*For the kingdom of God is not a matter of talk
but of power.* (1 Corinthians 4:20 NABRE)

When the gospel of the kingdom is proclaimed throughout the earth, **Jesus will return a second time.**

*This gospel of the kingdom will be
proclaimed throughout the whole world as a
testimony to all nations, and then the
end will come.* (Matthew 24:14 ESV)

Where's the evidence? Recently at MVCC the following healing testimonies were shared:

- Audria – hearing
- David – stage 4 bone cancer
- Kevin – chronic insomnia
- Momi – spine
- Nita – both heels

Physical healing is a part of our benefits.

*Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is
within me, bless his holy name! Bless
the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his
benefits, who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases.*
(Psalm 103:1-3 ESV)

*He himself bore our sins in his body on the
tree, that we might die to sin and live to
righteousness. By his wounds you have been
healed.* (1 Peter 2:24 ESV)

Some Ways God Heals Us:

- Through the **Prophetic Word**
- **Meal that Heals** (Communion)
- **Call for the Elders** (James 5:13-16)
- **Laying on Hands** (Mark 16:15-18)

(God Still Heals continues on next page)

(God Still Heals cont.)

The Great Mystery: Sometimes People Do Not Get Healed

The enemy is a legalist. He can only do what we have given him the legal right to do and there are some blockages and barriers.

- **Unbelief** (Matthew 13:58).
- **Ignorance** of God's Word (Hosea 4:6).
- **Occult Involvement** like fortune-telling, tarot cards, etc. (Acts 16:16).
- **Unconfessed Sin** toward God, others and self (Psalm 32:1-5).
- **Unforgiveness** with anger, bitterness, jealousy towards others (Eph.4:30-32).

Also, do not receive the lie we have to bear this cross, this thorn in the flesh. Be aware that sometimes we blame God.

Let us **pray and ask God to forgive** us for any of the above so that **all barriers are removed**:

Lord Jesus, please forgive me for my lack of belief that you are able to heal. Forgive my family line and anyone in my generational line who is taught that healing ceased in the first century and that God no longer heals today. Father, forgive me for my ignorance of your Word and not applying it to my life. Father, if I have ever been involved in the occult, fortune telling, tarot card reading, Ouija board or anything in that area, I am sorry, I repent for it and I renounce it in Jesus's name. Lord Jesus, if there's anyone I am angry with, bitter at, or jealous of, please forgive me from the bottom of my heart. I am truly sorry. Release your cleansing blood and wash over my heart so I am no longer bitter. I want to love like you love. Please forgive me. Break, shatter and destroy all these areas in my life and I acknowledge, Lord, that I need your healing power in my life in Jesus's name.

God can move through anyone and can give us discernment. Let's pray: Lord Jesus, I ask you to release in me words of knowledge, discernment, and your healing touch so that I can pray for others and see them healed in Jesus's name.

Healing Model:

- **ASK:** What is going on? On a scale of 1 to 10 how severe is your condition?
- **APPLY:** Lord, please pour out your unquenchable love on (so and so).
- **ACTIVATE:** Command the affliction to go and for the body to heal.
- **ASCERTAIN:** Be cognizant of anything the Lord shows you.
- **ASSESSMENT:** Ask (so and so) to test out where they are.



**Congratulations and Thank You,
Catherine Barbour
December 11, 2022**

Cat, congratulations and thank you! Cat recently passed the bar and is moving on into her sphere of influence in the world as a lawyer for the Lord. She has been part of MVCC since a teenager serving in our hospitality and announcement team for eight years. She also ministers incredibly in hula and free dance.

We want to honor and bless you today, Cat, as you move into this new season that God is calling you to. You are a world changer for Christ in the place that He has for you out there in the field of law.

We lift you up to God and we thank you for the daughter you are and for this place He has for you. We pray God will bless and order your steps as you step out in faith and trust in Him.

We are so grateful you are a part of our family of God here at MVCC. We bless you and we thank God for you. May He bring you to a new level in Him in this season in Jesus's name.



**Coffee with the Pastors
December 10, 2022**



From Intensive Care to Home
Robin Cravatt
December 11, 2022

About four weeks ago I was enjoying lunch at Down to Earth in Kailua and suddenly lost consciousness. Before I knew it, I was in an Intensive Care Unit at Queen’s. The doctors tell me it was probably another anxiety attack. Visitors tell me I did not recognize some of them and I could not speak. There were many wires attached to my head for my EEG and EKG readings and there was some concern I would never make it back home. From Queen’s, I was transferred to Nuuanu Hale, a rehabilitation center. Then on December 7, I was well enough to go home. I attended my ohana group Christmas party on December 9, and then MVCC on December 11. I would like to thank every one of my MVCC ohana who prayed for, visited, and encouraged me! God answers prayers!

KK Prayers for Robin
Captured by Jane and Wes Yamada
Recorded on November 13, 2022



Please click on this YouTube link to listen to a one-minute audio file of Eliana, Adalyn and Kamuela from Kingdom Kids praying for Robin. YouTube recording by Michelle (Yamada) Battles.

<https://youtu.be/F52cGnQzJKM>

Kingdom Kids’ COMPASSION

While preparing for the recording, Uncle Wes made an error, held his hand on his head saying “ooh noooo”. Then Mia put her hand on his and consoled him saying, “Don’t worry, God will work it out”. What a fine example of this month’s theme, COMPASSION.

–Pastor Barb Gross, December 12, 2022



Healed Instantly in the Healing Pool
Crystal Robles
December 4, 2022

Last week Friday I hurt my knee. When I tried to stand from a sitting position, I felt my knee lock then I tried to extend it slowly and I heard my knee pop and instantly felt pain. It was sore and swollen the whole weekend. I did not go to the doctor to have it checked, I figured it will get better.

Coming to church on Sunday it was still sore; sore enough that I asked my husband to take our son upstairs to Kingdom Kids because I felt climbing the stairs would hurt.

Pastor Rob called me up to demonstrate the power of the healing pool that opened that morning. He had no idea my knee was sore, and I did not tell anyone else about it. While standing in the pool he asked me if I had any pain and I told him about my injury. He asked me what my pain level was at the moment, and I realized that I had no pain at all! I was instantly healed by the power of God just standing there in the healing pool! God is so great!

Kingdom Kids’ RECONCILIATION

We celebrate this month with joy as God sent Jesus to rescue us from the struggles of this world and return us to the Garden (Tree of Life) where God’s goodness and life dwells. I told the story of a whale that was trapped by crab nets and the pain it felt as it struggled to be free. Along came a diver who rescued the whale by cutting the ropes and setting it free. I continued to share that Jesus is like the diver who has come to rescue us and set us free. The children saw their need to be rescued from relational pain, so we took them through steps of reconciling with each other. I was so proud of a boy who took the opportunity to rescue his sibling from her pain and return her and himself to God’s goodness and life. What an example he was to others! At the end of the day, one girl came up to me and said she had reconciled with her sibling in class! Wow!

–Pastor Barb Gross, December 4, 2022



Reconciliation
Karen Lewis
December 4, 2022

Reconciliation! Reconciliation! Reconciliation is on my heart for my people. Throughout the land look and see for I am showing you nature, showing you the signs and wonders of my love. On the Big Island I am spewing out the lava of my love.

I am **calling you in this season to reconciliation.** If you have something against your brother or your sister or your family or even me, reconcile in this season. For I have **called you to love one another, to lay down your lives for one another.** And those who are lost and hurting and confused will see what I am all about through you.

Reconciliation! My redeeming love! My redeeming grace! My mercy! Seek my face in this hour for I am getting ready now in this hour to **open up new roads, new pathways, new marketplaces, new avenues in your heart. Reconcile! Love one another.** Let this not be a Christmas of presents in the physical, but your presents with each other in your hearts. So, reconcile, **reconcile and love each other** daily, hourly, as I have loved you. Greater love has no man than his love for his brother.

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.
(John 13:34-35 ESV)



The Meal that Heals
Pastor Rob Gross
December 4, 2022

What is Communion About?

- It's a **Memorial**
- It's a **Celebration**
- It's a **Self-Examination**

Communion is the meal that heals our hearts. It's about coming into **union** with what Jesus did for us.

*The Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in **remembrance** of me." In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in **remembrance** of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you **proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.***

(1 Corinthians 11:23-26 ESV)

*Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in **an unworthy manner** will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. **Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body** eats and drinks judgment on himself. That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died..*

(1 Corinthians 11:27-30 ESV)

Communion is about Remembering:

1. **The covenant He established.**
2. **His broken body (the bread).**
3. **The blood He shed (the juice).**

Every part of Jesus's body was ravaged so we could experience the abundant life.

1. He was whipped thirty-nine times for our **physical healing** (Isaiah 53:5).
2. A crown of thorns was smashed into His scalp ravaging His brain and mind for our **mental peace of mind** (Matthew 27:29).

(Meal that Heals continues on next page)

(Meal that Heals continues)

3. He was forced to walk with a cross on His back to **carry every one of our burdens** if we allow Him (John 19:17).

4. He was stripped of all His clothes to **remove our shame** (Hebrews 12:2).

5 His hands and feet were nailed to the cross for **all our sins to also be nailed to the cross** (Colossians 2:14).

6. A spear pierced His side into His heart to **bind up our broken hearts** (John 19:34).

7. Jesus cried out, *“My God, My God, why have You forsaken me?”* (Matthew 27:46) He was separated from the Father’s love and became an orphan so we could **become His sons and daughters**.

Communion is a Celebration

1. **Praise and worship.**
2. **Giving thanks.**
3. **Telling others.**

Communion is an Opportunity to Reconcile

1. **With those you are bitter at.**
2. **With those who have hurt you.**
3. **With yourself for messing up.**

Communion Heals Us

1. **Spiritually.**
2. **Physically.**
3. **Emotionally.**

Absalom and David - A Broken Relationship

Absalom’s story is found in 2 Samuel 3:3, and 2 Samuel chapters 13-19. He was the third son of King David and led a rebellion to overthrow David’s throne.

Absalom was very handsome and had a beautiful sister Tamar. His half-brother Amnon lusted after Tamar and raped her, and then rejected and disgraced her.

For two years Absalom waited for David to exact justice, but David did nothing. Bitter, Absalom plotted and ordered Amnon’s death, and then fled for three years.

David again did nothing and when Absalom returned home, David refused to reconcile their relationship. **When we refuse to reconcile with those who have hurt us, the seeds of bitterness take root in our hearts.**

Wounded, Absalom undermined his father’s authority, stole the hearts of the people, and eventually proclaimed himself the king of Israel.

David fled for his life. He crossed over the Kidron Valley and headed up the Mount of Olives. While fleeing he sings a song, the 23rd Psalm, to encourage himself.

Sadly, David and Absalom never reconciled because Absalom was struck down in battle. When David got the news, he cried out, “O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would I have died instead of you, O Absalom, my son, my son!”

What can we learn from this story? Reconcile your unresolved relationships before it is too late.

1,000 years after David’s death, Jesus crossed the Kidron Valley and entered the garden of Gethsemane. Before entering the garden Jesus ate the Passover meal with His twelve disciples.

Today we refer to that meal as the Lord’s supper.

And as they were eating, he took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to them, and said, “Take; this is my body.” And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, and they all drank of it. And he said to them, “This is my blood of the covenant,

which is poured out for many...

And when they had sung a hymn,

they went out to the Mount of Olives.

(Mark 14:22-24, 26 ESV)

David never reconciled with his son and was devastated. **Reconciliation often seems impossible, but on the cross Christ broke down the walls that divide us!**

Before you take communion is there anyone you need to reconcile with and make things right?

A stronghold is a lie or false conclusion that has a stronghold on you. Don’t be like **Absalom who held a long-term grudge and suffered for it.** Don’t be like **David who didn’t act** even though his son lived in the same palace.

Make things right:

1. **Call!**
2. **Meet!**
3. **Act!**

DON'T DEBATE, DEMONSTRATE

I had a dream recently and felt the Lord say, **“Don't debate, demonstrate.”** –Pastor Rob

My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, so that your faith might not rest on human wisdom, but on God's power. (1 Corinthians 2:4-5 NIV)



“I Feel Light”
Hailee Robles
December 11, 2022

Hailee, you love Jesus. You have been going through a season of unkind words that have hurt you and it has been hard. **You are in the pool of Bethesda now.**

Jesus, in your mighty name, we ask that you remove Hailee from a cloud of hurtful words, cloud of despair and discouragement, envy, criticism, slander, or whatever it is. Remove Haley from the ungodly cloud as she stands in the pool of healing. Would You come right now and release your healing touch in Jesus's name. Heal her, Lord! Remove it from her in Jesus's name.

How do you feel? Hailee, **“I feel light.”**



A Heart for Evangelism
Gerald Gabriel
December 11, 2022

Gerald, do you have a heart for evangelism? God is going to release upon you **a new authority for evangelism.**

Lord, just release your presence. Gerald, we declare over you an *aa** lava type of God's love on you for evangelism. You are going to share the love of Jesus with people, and they are going to get touched. God is going to use you to reach the lost. In Jesus's name, just receive, receive, receive!

*aa flows usually are associated with a large volume of lava that moves swiftly



I Felt Incredible Joy
Lovey Denis
December 18, 2022

I had not shared with anyone that I had a nagging pain under my left foot, near the arch. The sharp nerve-like pain would come and go while walking and doing normal stuff for the last six months. Last Friday my foot even cramped up, was crazy disfigured-looking, and stuck in an uncomfortable position for maybe fifteen seconds. I thought about what kind of oil would help and I went ahead to put on some essential oils before bed.

On Saturday, the pain was more constant, and it peaked to a level eight as I walked. I have a high tolerance for pain and hardly complain, so I toughed it out.

While in praise and worship at church this past Sunday, **I felt the urge to sing in tongues and it helped me to focus on Jesus. Without any distractions, I forgot about the discomfort.** When Pastor Rob called out pain in the left foot, my hand went straight up! That is me!

I did not hesitate to go up for healing and as I stood in the Holy place, I felt incredible joy. I wanted to sprawl out on the carpet and swim around in this pool of healing, but I held back my excitement. (You are welcome.)

I always tell myself God knows my pain, my suffering, and fill in the blank. **GOD KNOWS!** The pain was gone, and my spirit lifted. I am grateful that **He knew of my pain when I kept silent. His acknowledgment was my blessing. He cares for you too!**

Thank you, Pastor Rob, for discerning and being sensitive to the ways the Lord wants to move and ultimately heal. I have had a few pangs of minor discomfort since Sunday, **BUT** God called it out into the light and **I am blessed He knows, cares, and heals.** Thank you, Abba!

The joy of the Lord is your strength.
(Nehemiah 8:10 NIV)



Ohana Advances the Kingdom
Luis and Yvette Salazar
December 11, 2022

And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others.
(2 Timothy 2:2 NIV)

In our ohana groups we **learn** by studying God’s Word; **grow** in the ways of God, and **influence others** by sharing the truth of who God is and living according to His ways.

They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles. And all the believers were together and had all things in common; and they would sell their property and possessions and share them with all, to the extent that anyone had need. Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved. (Acts 2:42-47 NASB)

Components of an Ohana Group

Family Time (Fellowship and breaking bread v.42)

Prayer (Praying, wonders, signs v.42, 43)

Worship/Praise (Breaking bread, feeling of sense of awe, with gladness and sincerity of heart, praising God v.43, 46-47)

Equipping (Devoting themselves to the apostles teaching v.42)

Developing/Practice (Day by day they continued in one mind v.46)

Evangelism (Signs and wonders, helping those in need, adding to their number day by day those who are being saved v.43, 45, 47)

Multiplication (The Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved v.47)



Why an Ohana Group?
Interview with Danielle Ross
December 11, 2022

Danielle joined MVCC last summer and has been part of small groups and now leads an Ohana Group with 18–35-year-old women.

How does being a part of an ohana group impact your life? Being part of an OG has definitely impacted my identity. In community we get to experience God’s love, His faithfulness and encouragement at such an intimate level. It is what we were designed for. In a women’s group I really experienced God’s love, and the way they loved me and God’s Word gave me such a fire for the Father and changed the trajectory of my identity and my love for God.

Why should someone join a group? By joining a group, you are saying ‘yes’ to Jesus. He modeled and lived in community. He had His Twelve and His inner three. We were created to live in community. Hebrews 10:25 tells us we are not to forsake the fellowship but are to encourage one another. We were not meant to do life alone. Life is so much better, so much more fruitful in community. In Matthew 18:20 it says where two or three gather, there I am also. What I’ve experienced is God’s pleasure when we come together in pursuit of Him.

How has leading a group impact your life? Partnering with Jesus is so much fun. Seeing how He sees other people and partnering with Him is the best thing ever. There are areas I need to learn, grow, and mature that will continue until I get to heaven, but there are things He is telling me like “Fix your eyes on me and all the other things go to the wayside. I am the One that takes care of everything else.” It is so much fun to see how He moves in each of the women. He always shows up and is so faithful. It is so much fun to see the others encounter the Father.

What are the benefits that would encourage others to become OG leaders? When you step out in faith to be a leader, you see the goodness of God. It is humbling to surrender, love and serve others even when they might not receive it. You get to see other sides of the Father and get to learn His heart for others and see others grow.



Connect, Love and Unify

Karen Lewis

December 11, 2022

[We serve a very special God and when we get to know Him, we really start to understand how He created us, and **He created us to connect.**]

I am a sovereign God. I can do what I want, when I want, with or without you. **Most of the time I choose to use you**, each and every one of you because my kingdom is about people. **My kingdom is about you.**

I created you as a family. You are my family and when you asked my Son into your heart, you became my family with everyone else who asked my Son into their heart.

One of the greatest gifts I could ever give you is each other, after the gift of salvation and my love for you. So, **I am asking you and I am challenging you to connect, to reconnect, to break down your walls, to break down your bitterness, to let nothing come between you and another.** For it is about **walking in my love**, connecting to one another and being in relationship. The enemy comes in to kill, to steal and destroy. Have you not seen it in your own lives, in your families, in your pre-Jesus days such that you built hardness in your heart? You said, "I will just do my own thing. I will just be myself with you, God."

Well, **you find out who you are** not just by seeking me and by studying my Word, but **by being in relationship with each other and by working through the challenges and the differences.**

You see, **I need unity among the body in this hour** and it is not going to happen if you do not start connecting and letting people in your lives and building your relationships with each other. **It is not going to happen without letting people in. So, connect and reach out to others.** And when others reach out to you, respond, and reach back.

You are my family. I love you and I am proud of you. And there are families within my family. So, I am **asking you and challenging you to connect into a family in this season.**



Commissioning of Ohana Group Leaders

December 11, 2022

These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them. (Acts 6:6 ESV)

Congratulations, OG leaders, for stepping out in faith. You will not only make a difference in the lives of others, but also in your personal life. As you step out to help others grow, you will grow. The enemy does not like this, and the Lord will use this so you can grow. It is going to be a challenge, but you are equipped for this. You are God's chosen ones to lead someone else into the presence of God. What a privilege!

You are on the frontlines. We really want to thank you. When it comes to the kingdom of God, it is not about just serving, but about investing in the lives of others. Sometimes we wonder if we are making a difference; do people care? We want to say we appreciate you for being on the frontlines. Yes, the enemy takes shots but that is a part of being a good soldier in Christ.

In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, we commission you into the harvest to help the people of God to mature and grow. We pray protection over you and your families. We plead the blood of Christ over each of you and we speak fruit and harvest, and that you will be able to understand that God is able to do far more than you dare ask. We bless you in the name of Jesus to continue to make that difference for Christ. We pray the spirit of multiplication would be upon you to extend the care of Christ not only to the people you are presently ministering to, but God would raise up leaders through each of you who will continue to multiply and reach others. We thank God for each of you and officially commission you in the name of Jesus.

It is **all part of the preparation you need for the hour is coming.** It is upon you. We are standing on the brink. When the waves of my glory come so will the onslaught from the enemy. Do you think you have seen trouble? **Trouble is coming but so is my glory. You need each other in this hour. So, love one another and unify.**

Join a MVCC Ohana Group!
Core Value: We are family and enjoy community.

Here is a brief description of the different types of groups available for the upcoming spring session in early January 2023.

Connect Groups are perfect for those who want to connect with God and his people but are in a season that cannot commit to a consistent schedule. These groups are available throughout the year to join in at any time.

Community Groups are designed for those desiring to grow alongside others more consistently to learn and practice a specified area or skill.

Growth Groups are for those able to commit to a season (9-12 months) of accelerated spiritual growth with the end hope of multiplying into new Growth Groups. There are five areas of focus: Bible Reading, H.E.A.R. Journal, Scripture Memory, Accountability, and Prayer. This group is limited to 5-6 members.

OHANA GROUPS - Spring Session 2023

Connect Groups (up to 20 members)

Women's Connect Group. Begins: Jan.18, 2023
1st and 3rd Wednesday. 630pm - 830pm
Location: MVCC. Led by Donna Stevens
Focus: Sunday Message or Word/Topic Study

Women's Connect Group. Begins: Jan. 18, 2023
1st and 3rd Wednesday. 930am - 1130am
Location: Windward Mall. Led by Dhayna Hee
Focus: Sunday Message or Word/Topic Study

Men's Connect Group. Begins: Jan. 12th, 2023
2nd and 4th Thursday of each month. 7pm - 9pm
Location: WW Mall. Led by Garrett Miyamoto
Focus: Sunday Message or Word/Topic Study

Co-Ed Connect Group. Begins: Jan. 11, 2023
Wednesday. Meet for 5 weeks, then 1 week off
Location: MVCC. Led by: Yvette Salazar
Focus: Sunday Message or Word/Topic Study

Community Groups (up to 12 members)

Co-Ed Community Group. Begins: Jan. 18, 2023
1st and 3rd Wednesday. 7pm - 9pm
Location: MVCC. Led by: Arlen Lung
Focus: Hearing God's Voice

MVCC's Kingdom Values

We are excited to announce a new class on our Pathway to Transformation called MVCC's Kingdom Values. This class will introduce you to Mountain View's values and immerse you into what shaped the heart and culture at MVCC.

At MVCC there are seven values we believe everyone should carry as an ambassador of Christ:

We live by God's Word.
We were created to worship.
With God, all things are possible.
Prayer is the difference.
We are family and enjoy community.
We are called to make an impact.
We are generous like our Father.

Right Relationship (with God) +
Right Values =
Transformation

MVCC Kingdom Values

This is an 8-week course beginning on January 11, 2023
Location: MVCC
99-1324 Koaha Place, Aiea, HI 96701
Time: 7 pm – 9 pm
Led by: Luis Salazar

If you are interested in joining this class,
Click on the link
[MVCC Kingdom Values](#)

Co-Ed Community Group. Begins: Jan. 18, 2023
1st and 3rd Wednesday. 7pm - 9pm
Location: ZOOM. Led by: Claire Yamashiro
Focus: Book: The Lost Art of Listening

Women's (Ages 18-30) Community Group
Begins: Jan. 17th, 2023
1st and 3rd Tuesday. 630pm - 830pm
Location: TBD. Led by: Danielle Ross
Focus: TBD

Please sign-up for any of our groups at our Ohana tables at service or email Yvette Salazar at dzurikyvette@gmail.com. Phone: 808-384-8251



**Change the Fruit by
Exposing the Root**
Pastor Miguel Cardona
December 18, 2022

Christmas is not about that tree (on the left), but about that tree (on the right).



Christ has a **wonderful gift** for you and that gift is **freedom**.

... where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. (2 Corinthians 3:17 ESV)

In my life everything in ministry was going well on the outside, but **something was not right on the inside**. I had to get to the **root of the problem**. I needed to let the **Holy Spirit come in, expose the root, and change me from the inside out**. I needed **transformation**.

*Behold, You desire truth in the **inward parts**, and in the **hidden part** You will make me to know wisdom. (Psalm 51:6 NKJV)*

Something inside blocks our fruitfulness. Inward parts is a rare phrase in the Hebrew Bible that indicates something is clouded over; very difficult for anyone but God to see. **It is hidden on the inside and needs to be exposed** and addressed. God wants to **restore, mend, and make us whole again**.

*The serpent was the shrewdest of all the wild animals the LORD God had made. One day he asked the woman, “**Did God really say you must not eat the fruit from any of the trees in the garden?**” (Gen.3:1 NLT)*

Eve had everything, but when she listened to the enemy say, “**Did God really say...**”, she was convinced she needed one more thing. We need to **stop having conversations with the enemy**. We need to **resist Him; take authority over him**. If we don't, we start to believe his lies. Genesis 3:7 tells us: *At that moment their eyes were opened, and they suddenly **felt shame** at their nakedness. So they sewed fig leaves together to cover themselves.*

Shame is:

1. A feeling of having no value to others or God.
2. A sense of guilt.
3. Not feeling like you are making a mistake, but you are a mistake.

We get good at hiding the shame. **I had to allow God to do whatever He wants so I could be free**. When the Holy Spirit transforms us, we can tell others there is an answer to what they are going through.

We get so caught up about Christmas that we forget about the cross. **Before I could not go to the throne room to receive healing because there was so much shame** deposited in me from the past. At Friday's service I was reminded I can go in. **I can! I can!**

Shame is trying to stop us, but God is saying we can go in. The devil is a liar, but God is saying we can **enter His throne room**. Whatever has been hindering us, will hinder us no more. We are coming into a place where we are not a mistake; we are the chosen ones.

We are praying not to connect but praying because **we are connected**. He is wanting and waiting to have a **relationship with us**.

In Genesis 3:10 Adam tells God he was **afraid** because he was naked. God replies, “Who told you that you were naked?” **Satan says one thing and we believe and are afraid**.

Fear comes from not being able to put our trust completely in God. Somewhere in your family line fear came into your heart. There was an event. When I was nine, a man with a knife robbed me. **Fear got in. Every time I wanted to do something for the Lord, I would disqualify myself. I was fearful I could not do it**.

When we cannot go forward because of fear, we cannot receive what God has for us – healing, blessings, a sound mind, and empowerment to speak into another's life.

Fear has a twin brother, and his name is **anxiety**. Fear is the event. Anxiety is the seed that is planted in our soul that is tormenting us. **Anxiety means dividing or fracturing a person into parts; to separate and to choke. God wants to make us whole**.

We defeat darkness by exposing it to light. Ephesians 5:13 tells us: *But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible*. When the lies of the enemy, shame, fear, anxiety are exposed and we allow God to do whatever he wants to set us free and go through the transformation process, we will be able to go out with power to tell others the Messiah's message.



MERRY CHRISTMAS

Pastors Rob and Barbara Gross

MOUNTAIN VIEW COMMUNITY CHURCH, 2022



Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:



"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel"

(which means, God with us).

When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus. (Matt. 1:18-25 ESV)



Immanuel, God with Us
His Presence is the Present
Pastor Rob Gross, December 23, 2022

The San Francisco Chronicle reported a story about a female humpback whale who entangled herself in a spider web of hundreds of pounds of crab traps and lines on December 11, 2005.

A rescue team determined the only way to save her was to dive in and untangle her. One slap of a whale's tail could kill a rescuer. They worked for hours and eventually freed her. When the whale was free, the divers said she swam in joyous circles, returned to be near each diver, and nudged them as if to thank them.

That is what Jesus wants to do for us. He wants to set us free from the things that entangle our lives, and He wants to be near to us.

There is comfort in God's presence. The word **presence** means **nearness, company, and closeness. God drew near to me using others.**

When my father died, God used my aunt Yoshie. When my mother died, Pastor Yvette was there. When I was having a hard time in ministry, Pastor Tisha brought comfort.

God's presence is the best present we could ever receive. There is a name in the Bible that describes God's desire to hang out and be with us: **Immanuel, God with us.**

700 years before the birth of Jesus, the prophet Isaiah wrote: *Therefore, the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel* (Isaiah 7:14 ESV).

Matthew 1:18-25 tells us Jesus was born, fulfilling Isaiah's word. **God's heart is always to be near us from the Tabernacle of Moses to the Tent of David/the ark, the Temple of Solomon, and Jesus (Immanuel). He is inside of us.**

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, (the dwelling place) of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God." (Revelation 21:3 ESV)

Psalm 16:11 tells us there is **fullness of joy in God's presence:** *You will show me the path of life; in Your presence is fullness of joy; at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.*

People are on a constant pleasure search. We are created for pleasure, i.e., sex, eating, sight-seeing. My favorite pleasures are the halo dessert dish, sushi, jamming with friends, watching the sunset, and my grandkids.

The greatest pleasure is knowing God's presence.

*When Moses entered the tent, the pillar of cloud would descend ... and the **Lord would speak with Moses...** Thus the Lord used to **speak to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend...** (Exodus 33:9, 11 ESV)*

Sadly, many do not know of or have not experienced the presence of God. Here are some **benefits of knowing God's presence (Immanuel):**

Rest – *Truly my soul finds rest in God; my salvation comes from him. Truly he is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I will never be shaken* (Psalm 62:1-2 NIV).

Peace – *I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world* (John 16:33 ESVUK).

Strength and Courage – *Have I not commanded you? **Be strong and courageous!** Do not be terrified nor dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go* (Joshua 1:9 NASB).

Companionship – *I [Jesus] will never leave you nor forsake you* (Hebrews 13:5 NKJV).

Favor – *But the Lord was with Joseph and showed him steadfast love and gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison* (Genesis 39:21 ESV).

Christmas reminds us that God made a way, to be right here *with us* and *with you*. Do not ever doubt or fear that Jesus is not with you. Do not every doubt He does not know what He is doing in your life or in the world. Jesus will use even the most difficult things for good. God does not always take us around our troubles. Sometimes he takes us straight into the darkness, into the fire, into the deep, but He is faithful to carry us through and will not let the hardships define us. He is *God with us*, our Refuge and Strength, our Savior and Lord.



All Things are Possible with God
TC Vegas
December 23, 2022

A month and a half ago I had 1/3 of the upper lobe of my right lung removed. While it was the **hardest surgery** to date, **another hardest thing** I have faced in my five years of this journey is the **frustration of feeling like I start fulfilling some of the things God is calling me to do only to get abruptly sidelined for another season. I have received and learned so many things through what I call a trial by fire, but sometimes it feels like I am watching the world pass me by.** One of the hard and fast things about **our relationship with Jesus is He is always there whether you are on the mountain top or whether you are in the valley.** I want to be in His presence, so I have had to sit and **let Him walk me through the process.**

One morning I clearly heard the Lord through Isaiah 40:31: *They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength. They shall mount up with wings of eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.* While we wait, we **put our hope and trust in Him.** We **renew and exchange our garments of weakness and heaviness into garments of strength and praise.**

I had an appointment with my new PCP to prepare for surgery. I heard she was a believer. Somehow, we started talking about fear. She told me when she moved to the islands about a year earlier, she got into a really **bad car accident** and every time she got behind the wheel after that, **dread and fear would come over her**, so she had to pray to start her car.

I was in my gown sitting on the physician's bed and she was on a stool below me. I felt a familiar nudge and thought, 'Lord, she's a doctor'. But I said, "Can I pray for you?" She said, "Yes, please!" She closed her eyes and I put my hand on her and **I broke off the spirit of trauma and fear, pulled her out of the depths, and prayed peace over her.** When I was done, I opened my eyes and the doctor's head was in my lap and she was sobbing. She hugged me tightly.

A week before the surgery. I was walking my dog in our neighborhood, and I saw what I thought was a childhood friend, so I waved to her twice, but she didn't respond. So, I shouted out her name and she finally said she had a **tear, a macular hole, and scarring in her retina and she could not see me.** The doctor told her the **hole was irreparable** and she would have to live with it the rest of her life, so she was depressed.

I told her, "**Nothing is impossible for our God.**" She replied, "You are right! Nothing is impossible for God!" So, I invited her to my house about a week later and as I prayed for her eye, she said she could feel heat in her face.

After the prayer I asked her to test her eye out and she said she thought she could see writing she normally could not see. **We thanked the Lord for what He had already done, and I told her to go home and continue to thank God for the rest of it.**

About 1 ½ - 2 weeks after my surgery, my sister had come to help me recover. We heard banging on the door. My sister reluctantly opened the door and there was my friend with flowers in her hand excitedly yelling she was healed. She said that day we prayed, she went around **telling everyone, "Nothing is impossible with God."**

She said she had gone to the doctor and told him, "I'm healed." The doctor asked her, "What makes you think you are healed?" She said, 'I can see some stuff on the wall I couldn't see before.' He examined her eye, and she could see some things and some letters she could not see before, but it wasn't fully corrected. But when he checked the hole and the scarring, he was in disbelief because **the hole had closed and healed itself.**

So, my friend was standing in my house excitedly waving the before-and-after scans, **proving God had healed what modern medicine said was not possible.**

When she returned to the doctor, he asked her, "Tell me again what you did to repair the hole." She did and she is going around **telling everyone how good God is.**

Later when I saw my new doctor, she told me there was a **complete turnaround after we prayed.** She is **no longer dealing with the daily fear and dread.** She has **newfound joy every single day** and she is **ready to go back to ministering to others.**

I weep when I think about how good and faithful our God is. His word says in Romans 8:28 that **in all things, in your good times and your tough times, He works for the good of those who love Him, who are called according to His purpose.** There is **always so much to be grateful for. We just have to look.**

And while your life and my life may not look exactly how we are picturing it to be, **we do not have to wait for everything to be perfect to be an extension of the love that He has so freely given us. He loved you and me so much that He gave what was most precious to Him, His Son Jesus.**

The reason we celebrate Christmas is so that you and I, **if we have a relationship with Him, will not only walk as His sons and daughters on this earth, but we will be with Him for eternity to love and be loved by Him. He gave so you and I could give. Take a moment to think about His faithfulness and some of the things you are grateful for. Give Him the thanks and honor that He deserves.**



The Angel Connection at Pohai Nani

Donna Teramae and Team, December 10, 2022

The Angel Connection is filled with angels who connect others to the Father's heart. We use our gifts and talents to bless those in need of Jesus. We started about 15 years ago when God called me to do this ministry with a scripture:

The Spirit of the Lord is on me, ...he has anointed me to proclaim good news, ...proclaim freedom for the prisoners, ...recovery of sight for the blind, ...set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor. (Luke 4:18-19 NIV)

At Pohai Nani we started with songs *If You are Happy and You Know It*, and *Holly Jolly Christmas*. Dancers Danielle, Shan, Jenica, and Iris performed a number while Cullen and Brysen provided the music.

We shared testimonies of God's faithfulness and goodness in carrying us through sickness, healing us physically, showing us how real He is, and helping us forgive those we were bitter towards by showing the love of Christ. Brian testified, sang and played the uke to *When I Look into Your Holiness*. Momi, Lisa and I testified, and Cullen played *He Will Carry You* with Kelly dancing. Susan and Dhayna testified and Cullen sang the *Goodness of God*. Miranda and Claire testified and then Linda and Claire danced to *Thank You, Lord*.

The children blessed the elderly with sign dance to songs led by Lisa. Emily, Kailani, Adalyn, Brianne, Eliana, Kaila, and Kamuela danced to *Jesus Loves Me*, *I Am Who You Say I Am*, and *Away in the Manger*. The residents just love the children.

Wes, Jane, and Jessica shared the history of *Silent Night* and sang.

As the hearts of the people were open, I shared the gospel – the best gift everyone could receive at Christmas because of the eternal rewards. A few of the residents received Christ! One of the residents called me later to share that the testimony of forgiveness really impacted her.

God led us to end with singing *Joy to the World*, congratulating them, and praying for their needs. This year we were also able to give them a Christmas gift and candies donated by our beautiful friends at MVCC.

I will be doing a discipleship class to follow up with them. In the past, I held a discipleship class with them every week with Mike and Susan faithfully helping. Glory to God! More for His kingdom!
–Donna Teramae

