

HEART-TO-HEART

We are reminded that Christ is in our hearts and we are in His and that love connects us all in unity.



*And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.
1 Corinthians 13:13*

Expressions of Love

February is known as the month when individuals declare their love to someone and couples celebrate their love with each other.

Gary Chapman, author of “The Five Love Languages,” states that the five love languages that people “speak” are:

1. Words of affirmation
2. Quality time
3. Physical touch
4. Acts of service
5. Receiving gifts

We often show love to another in the way that resonates with us, but that may not be the other person’s love language. The author challenges us to figure out what love language clicks with the other person and to speak their language so that they feel your love.

Relationships can be messy, and it always takes work to maintain them. Let us focus this month on strengthening our relationships and developing new relationships with those who God puts into our life.

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God's Wonderful Gift: A Born-Again Experience

by Linda Kunimitsu

In June of last year, my grandson Keith graduated from Kamehameha Schools and went off to college in Alabama. About a year before he graduated, he had called me one evening saying he was feeling uneasy. As I have already shared his testimony in an earlier issue, I won't go into it in detail. Suffice to say, the only place he could have privacy that night was in the bathroom, where he prayed the Sinner's Prayer.

Fast forward to nearly a year later. He called me about a month before Christmas last year from Alabama. "Grandma," he says, "I became born again and I want to be a pastor." Whaaat?

I asked, "What brought this about, Keith?" He goes on to say shortly after arriving in AL he saw a notice about a Monday night Bible study taught by a colonel. This was a college specializing in students who were interested in joining the military.

I was, to put it mildly, overjoyed. I have seven grandchildren and, as

far as I knew, Keith was the first to accept Jesus as his Lord and Savior.

Have you had a born-again experience? If your answer is no or not sure, please pray this prayer right now:

Dear Lord Jesus,

I would like to have a born-again experience. I confess that I am a sinner, but you made it possible for me to be in heaven with you.

Thank you for loving me so much that you died on the cross for my sins. Please forgive me for my sins. I accept You as my Lord and Savior.

Amen.



"Except for love, nothing you see will remain forever."

—Rumi

Dis 'n Dat

...about February from "The Farmer's Almanac"

(<https://www.almanac.com/content/month-february-holidays-fun-facts-folklore>)

- Originally, February was made the last month of the calendar year. Eventually (c. 450 BC), February was moved to its place as the second month.
- February 2 is Groundhog Day—the day we find out whether winter will last six more weeks or call it quits early.
- February 10 is the Lunar New Year. Celebrated widely throughout East Asia, this holiday begins with the first new Moon after the Winter Solstice and is associated with the Chinese Zodiac.
- February 12 is Abraham Lincoln's Birthday. The 16th president of the United States was born in a one-room, 16x18-foot log cabin with a dirt floor.
- February 13 is Mardi Gras (aka "Fat Tuesday" or Shrove Tuesday), which is the final feasting day before the Christian tradition of Lent begins on the following day, Ash Wednesday.
- February 14 is Ash Wednesday, which marks the start of Lent.
- February 14 is always Valentine's Day. Heads up, lovebirds! Today, the holiday is celebrated with love, flowers, and chocolate.
- February 29 is Leap Day! Happening once every four years, we are given an extra day in February. Some think this day brings good luck.



"Life isn't a matter of milestones but of moments."

– ROSE KENNEDY

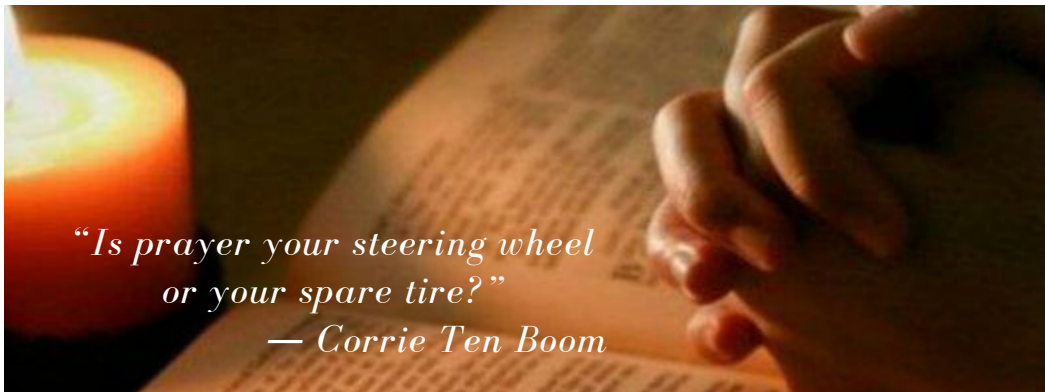


Developing a Relationship with God

As Christians, one of the best gifts that God has given to us is the ability to talk with Him at any time. He is accessible and He wants to develop a deeper relationship with us. That requires us to spend time getting to know Him and for us to share our lives with Him. And how do we do that? With consistency in reading the Bible (to get to know Him) and through prayer (spending time with Him).

Jesus was clear in stating that the greatest commandments are to love God and to love others. We try to build our relationship with God first to ensure that we have a firm foundation so that we can then love others.

Like with any other relationship that you want to cultivate, it takes work - time, energy, dedication, devotion and consistency - and it takes communication. Over time, our relationship gets stronger. If you haven't done so already, start by setting aside a few minutes in the day to pray and read the Bible until it becomes a part of your routine. It doesn't matter how long you start off with; just start. You will find peace when you begin focusing on Jesus.



*"Is prayer your steering wheel
or your spare tire?"
— Corrie Ten Boom*



94-420 Farrington Hwy.
Waipahu, HI 96797
Office: (808) 671-0699
Email: info@westoahuchristian.org
Website: <http://www.westoahuchristian.org>

Pastor - Stan Miyamoto
Editorial Staff - Linda Kunimitsu & Julie Morita



*"What wings are to a bird, and
sails to a ship, so is prayer to
the soul."*

- CORRIE TEN BOOM

*Please feel free to contact:
Linda Kunimitsu or Julie
Morita about this newsletter
or to submit an article.*