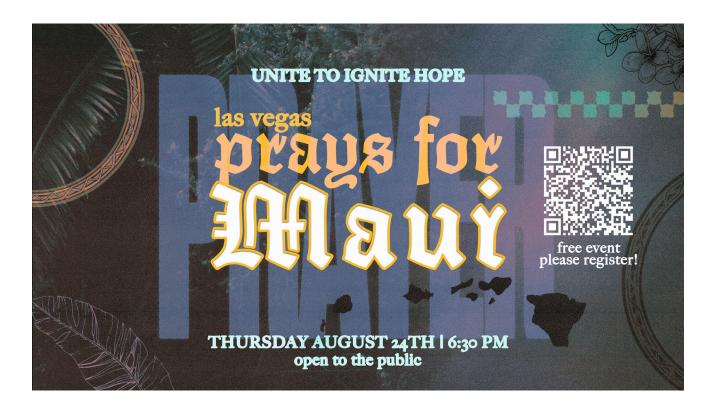
Join us this Thursday as the city gathers together to pray for those hurting in Maui.



10 KEYS TO A STRONG CHURCH

A FOCUSED CHURCH CAN CHANGE THE WORLD MATTHEW 28:18-20

WEEK 4

The Jewish people had the opportunity granted by the United Nations to establish a homeland again, In 1948, And there were many nations that were upset at this. In fact, all of the nations really surrounding Israel at the time were more than just disappointed. They joined an alliance with the president of Egypt, Syria and Jordan to basically wipe them off the face of the earth. But Israel, had been preparing for a moment like this. They rallied their forces and instituted something called 'Operation Focus.' And 'Operation Focus' was the mobilization of their air force. They took out all of the Air Force bases in Egypt, established air supremacy over Egypt. And then they did the same thing in Jordan and in Syria. They were also able to establish supremacy with their ground forces.

God worked the miracle, because the leadership had a clear focus, Operation Focus, because the people were united together, obviously desperately fighting for their own survival and because they leveraged all of their resource, every single asset that they had, they brought to bear in this conflict. And as they did that, all of the latent potential that was within that nation was released. It's considered to be one of the greatest modern day military victories that the world has ever known. I just would say to you that what God did in the nation of Israel, God can do in the church. There is so much potential, untapped potential in the church. I think that there's so much latent potential just waiting to be released. God's waiting to do the miracle.

(10 min) PRAY

As a Life Group, ask God to align us to His mission, remove the distractions that keep us from seeing clearly His purpose for our lives.

(25 min) TIME TO CONSIDER

1. Pastor Derek used three Scriptures to focus us in on what our true purpose is. Ephesians 3:21 (Worship God), Ephesians 4:11 (Grow as Christians), and Matthew 28: 18-20 (Reaching the lost). Take turns reading each Scripture and discuss *why it takes all three to be a strong mission-minded church*.

Living for God's mission means giving yourself to God's mission

2. What does the above statement mean to you? In what practical ways can we give yourself to God's mission?

When your finances are consecrated, the rest of your life will be consecrated.

3. How does the concept of "worship through giving" resonate with you? How can giving be seen as an act of worship rather than just a financial transaction?

"He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way." 2 Corinthians 9:10-11

4. According to 2 Corinthians 9:10, God "supplies seed to the sower." What does this imagery suggest about God's role in our giving and his desire to bless us? How might this perspective impact our willingness to give?

WEEKLY MEMORIZATION VERSE: Malachi 3:10 "Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need."