



# Ka 'Ōlelo 'O Ke Ola

"THE WORD OF LIFE"

Fall 2023, Volume 48 Issue 3

Bible Institute of Hawai'i • Founded in 1972 • 2345 Nu'uānu Avenue • Honolulu, HI 96817 USA • Phone: (808) 595-4700 • Website: www.biblehawaii.org  
Executive Director: Rodney Wong • Board of Directors: Ken Humphries, President • Cynthia W. Lai, Vice President • Kendal Fong, Secretary  
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## Mālama Maui Heartfelt Prayers



By Rodney Wong,  
BIH Executive Director

Our hearts are heavy with sorrow as we grapple with the recent tragedy that has profoundly impacted the community in Lahaina, Maui. This town, once chosen as the royal capital by King Kamehameha, holds significant memories in Hawaii's history. The rapid and relentless progression of the wildfires on August 8th swiftly consumed a substantial part of the town in mere hours. The many distressing videos of the ordeal, along with firsthand accounts, have also stirred emotions worldwide. The unimaginable loss of life has left us all in shock, an event not witnessed in a century.

Our deepest sympathy extends to those who mourn the loss of loved ones, homes, schools, businesses, churches, and livelihood that bind the community together. In the face of this unfathomable tragedy, our thoughts and prayers are with all who navigate the overwhelming challenges it has brought forth. The toll on human hearts is immeasurable, and the healing journey ahead spans many years.

Considering the challenging path that lies ahead, the genuine generosity exhibited by many of you has been incredibly uplifting. Your contributions, ranging from financial support and service to your words of encouragement and heartfelt prayers, serve as a steadfast reminder that they are not alone on this journey.

I have been in contact with some of our Maui BIH connections, and they have pro-

vided updates indicating that since the fires, they have been working nonstop and are very actively involved in relief efforts, in addition to handling a wide range of responsibilities. They are working in collaboration with fellow members of the Christian community. They humbly request your prayers, as these prayers offer them invaluable strength to persevere on the path that lies ahead.

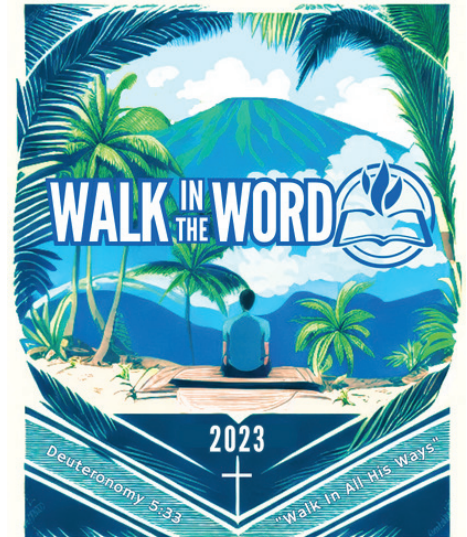
In times like these, we find solace in the words of Psalm 34:18: 'The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.' May the presence of our Lord and spirit of Aloha embrace the Maui 'ohana throughout this season of grief, renewing faith and pouring out a hope from above.

### "Walk in the Word" Fundraiser - Walk in the Word for the Word!

We are excited to have you join us for "Walk in the Word," hosted by Kalihi Union Church! This event is more than just a walk; it's an opportunity to support the Bible Institute of Hawaii in a fun and healthy manner.

#### Event Details:

- Event: BIH Walk in the Word: "Walk in All His Ways" (Dt. 5:33)
- Date: Saturday, September 16, 2023
- Time: 8:00 AM - 10:30 AM
- Location: Kalihi Union Church Gym, 2214 N. King St, Honolulu
- Registration Fee: \$25 (Includes a Walk T-shirt)



### "WALK in the WORD"

BIH Fundraiser

Kalihi Union Church Gym

Saturday, September 16, 2023

8:00-10:30 am

Registration Fee: \$25

8:00 - 8:30 am; Registration

8:30 - 9:00 am; Music & Warm-ups

9:00 - 10:00 am; The Walk

10:00 - 10:30 am; Fellowship &

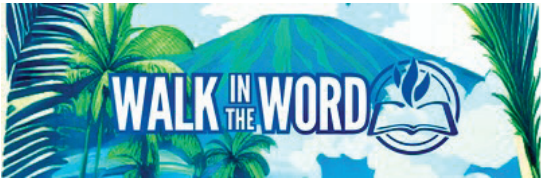
Refreshments

#### Why "Walk in the Word"?

It is more than just a stroll – it's an incredible chance to come together in fellowship while also supporting the mission of Bible Institute of Hawaii. During this event, participants will engage in an hour-long walk, seeking sponsorship from individuals who they invite to contribute funds.

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)



It provides a fun opportunity to enjoy the sun and engage in a healthy activity while contributing to a Bible centered ministry. We welcome participants of all ages and fitness levels. Whether you're a seasoned walker or eager to make a difference, this event is "fit" for you!

**How You Make an Impact:**

Every registration fee from the "Walk in the Word" event directly supports the Bible Institute of Hawaii's efforts. Your contribution plays a vital role in advancing our mission to collaborate with churches, deliver Christ-centered teachings, and transform lives in the Islands. By joining us, you're contributing to a greater cause – making a real impact on biblical teaching in the islands.

**Spread the Word:**

Invite your friends, family, colleagues, and churches to be part of this fun morning. Share the word about the "Walk in the Word" fundraiser for BIH.

**Register:**

Secure your spot and join others by visiting [www.biblehawaii.org](http://www.biblehawaii.org) or filling out the Newsletter's registration form. Don't miss this opportunity to be part of an event that blends exercise, community, and making a difference.

**Sponsorship Opportunity:**

For this event, we've prepared a Sponsorship Form available for download on our website. All participant walkers are encouraged to seek sponsors and motivate them to contribute any amount. Your outreach to sponsors amplifies our fundraiser's impact!

Gather the following details for each sponsor:

- Sponsor's Full Name:
- Mailing Address:
- Email / Phone:
- Donation Amount: \$\_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** Can't attend? Support us by donating on our website.

Thank you for your unwavering support. We eagerly anticipate your participation in the "Walk in the Word". Let's walk together in the Word for the Word!

**SAVE the DATES:**  
**BIH Marriage & Parenting Conferences**  
 with Drs. Paul and Virginia Friesen  
**Dates: Friday-Saturday**  
**March 1-2 & 8-9, 2024**  
**Two Conferences, Two Weekends,**  
**Two Locations (in Honolulu, TBA)**  
**Registration Opens in January**

**Two Special Blessings**



By Dr. Rebecca S. Ovitt,  
BIH Faculty Emerita  
*Love in Action Award Recipient 2022*

**I have been doing the support group for the divorced, widowed, and separated for 41 years. God has been so good in helping me to reach out to the broken-hearted so that they will experience His amazing grace and love!**

I will never forget this lady who needed help. We met at Makiki Park although it was raining. We sat on a bench under a big tree holding our umbrellas! With sadness and tears, she shared about her broken relationship and her sad life! I shared with her about Jesus who can mend her broken heart and help her experience peace, comfort, and strength! She readily said, "I want this Jesus! How do I get Him to help me?" I happily told her that if she will accept Jesus in her heart as her Lord and Savior, He will guide and direct her steps and will give her peace and joy! She once again answered; "I want Jesus!" Thus, she accepted Jesus in her heart!! Hallelujah! Several days later, we met again, and she had the sweetest smile and she told me that she had experienced peace

and joy and comfort and strength in handling her life situation! She also added that she even prays for "that person" who hurts her to be touched by God too! What a blessing!

Another blessing happened in my present support group class that I conduct on Sunday at University Avenue Baptist Church under the sponsorship of the Bible Institute of Hawaii.

We always have group work in class, one person having a partner. Since there are 7 participants, one member became my partner.

After praying with my partner, she shared her emotional burden while crying! I gave her a warm embrace and told her that Jesus understands her emotional pain as a wife and mother! Furthermore, Jesus will give her comfort and strength in handling her emotional pain. She then asked, "Who is Jesus and how will He help me?" It was then that I shared who our Lord Jesus is, and I asked her if she wanted to have Jesus as her Lord and Savior. She said, "Yes!"

Thus, I led her to accept Jesus as her Lord and Savior!

After our group work, I shared with the whole class that this special lady accepted Jesus as her Lord and Savior, and everyone was very happy as they clapped their hands! Her dear friend who invited her to join the support group had tears of joy! Everyone hugged her when we ended the session! What a special blessing!



# FALL QUARTER 2023

## SCHEDULE OF COURSES

Sept. 18 – Nov. 14, 2023 (6-8 weeks)

Register online at [www.biblehawaii.org](http://www.biblehawaii.org).  
 For mail-in registrations, it must be postmarked by Wednesday, September 11.  
 Registration fee: \$15 – \$40.

### Monday

**BST330**

#### The Order of Salvation

**Dr. Rick Bartosik**

Our salvation is God's work from beginning to end. "The Order of Salvation" refers to the steps God takes to save us from sin and its consequences. The goal of this class is that you will be captured and captivated and moved to the depth of your being by the truth of God's Word concerning our great salvation, so that your heart will overflow with peace and joy in believing and your life will be transformed. In our eight-week study we will cover the following: Election, Calling, Regeneration, Conversion (Faith and Repentance), Justification, Adoption, Sanctification, Perseverance and Glorification. Downloadable Workbook free with class. **CBS Students:** Required Text, "Redemption Accomplished and Applied" by John Murray. Write a half-page summary and evaluation for each chapter.

**Administrative Fee: \$40**

**(Bring-a-friend option available)**

**September 25 – November 13, 2023**

**(8 weeks)**

**Mondays, 6:30 – 8:30 pm**

**In-person only @ Kailua Christian Church**

**317 Manono St., Kailua**

CBS/CMM: *Overview - Theology*

### Tuesday

**NT002**

#### Gospel of Mark

**Rev. Ken Humphries**

As the first written account of the life of Jesus, John Mark's writing is the eyewitness report of the Apostle Peter. Mark had several purposes in the writing of

his gospel. In large measure, however, his focus is taken up with sketching a true portrait of Jesus and what it means to follow him, especially in times of suffering and persecution. In Mark's gospel Jesus' ministry and his passion provide both the foundation of discipleship as well as the pattern.

**Administrative Fee: \$35 per household**

**September 19 – October 24, 2023**

**(6 weeks)**

**Tuesdays, 6:30 – 8:00 pm**

**Zoom Online**

CBS/CMM: *NT-Gospels*

**CE118**

#### Ukulele Hymn Singing & Church Music History

**Rev. Caleb Kho-Hun Kim**

Embark on a journey that bridges musical devotion and historical significance through our Ukulele Hymn Singing & Church Music History course. Study the rich history of hymnody as you gain skills in strumming and singing cherished hymns on the ukulele, while delving into captivating narratives and testimonials from revered hymn writers such as Handel, Bach, Crosby, Watts, Wesley, and Luther. With immersive ukulele hymn sessions and lectures on the profound heritage of church music, this course integrates melody, spirituality, and history into an enriching encounter. All ukulele skill levels are invited to partake; come join us in exploring the enduring resonance of faith and music. The course also features lecturers Miss Dan Bi Kim and Dr. Bong Rin Ro.

**Administrative Fee: \$40**

**(Bring-a-friend option available)**

**September 19 – November 14, 2023**

**(8 weeks, except 10/31)**

**Tuesdays, 6:30 – 8:30 pm**

**In-person only @ Hawaii Zion Church**

**1451 South King St. Unit 414, Honolulu**

CBS/CMM: *Skills*

### Wednesday

**NT027**

#### What is Revelation Really All About

**Dr. Matt Sanders**

Revelation is often approached differently from other books of the Bible. Instead of asking the question "What did this mean to the original audience?" many people ask, "What does it mean to me?" This session will take a brief look at what Revelation says when we study it the way we study the rest of the Bible. What is the real message of Revelation?

**Administrative Fee: \$35 per household**

**September 20 – November 8, 2023**

**(8 weeks)**

**Wednesdays, 12:00 - 1:00 pm**

**Zoom Online**

CBS/CMM: *NT-Revelation*

**CLV311**

#### How to Study God's Word: The Basics of Biblical Interpretation

**Ms. Nanette Williams**

This course will give you basic instruction on how to observe, interpret, and apply Scripture using the inductive Bible study method. The goal is for you to gain confidence in studying Scripture accurately and applying it to your life in a way that deepens your walk with God. You will receive a workbook by email to print and use in class. **Recommended resource** (not required but very helpful): Grasping God's Word Laminated Sheets by J. Scott Duvall and J. Daniel Hays (Available online in both hard copy and Kindle versions).

**Administrative Fee: \$40 per household**

**September 20 – November 8 (8 weeks)**

**Wednesdays, 6:30 – 8:15 pm**

**Zoom Online**

CBS/CMM: *Skills*



Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) has approved Bible Institute of Hawaii to offer course work leading to Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for ACSI Certification in the area of biblical studies.

## BIH Student Testimony

### The Fear of the Lord - My Journey

By Marti Ann Koizumi

I am immensely thankful for the Bible Institute of Hawaii and the blessings it has brought into my life. This remarkable community of devoted teachers and passionate students, all bound by a shared love for Jesus, has been a true gift from God.

A few years ago, I was reading my Bible during my quiet time, and I remember asking the Lord, “What does the fear of the Lord actually mean?” I was reading Proverbs 1:7, which states, “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; Fools despise wisdom and instruction.” (NASB). I could feel the Holy Spirit’s conviction to want to learn more. What was this “fear of the Lord” that was connected to “knowledge”?

Shortly after, this Bible Scripture seemed to resonate even more as I listened to a sermon on YouTube. The preacher passionately emphasized the need for more churches to teach about the fear of the Lord, a sentiment that resonated deeply. That came at the right time. Again, I wanted to learn more as it all seemed to tie in together. Little did I know that God knew exactly what I needed and what I was ready for. He was preparing to lead me down a different path than the one I was on.

Around the same time, I had an opportunity to attend “Just Show Up”, a captivating Bible reading ministry hosted by First Presbyterian Church of Honolulu. I had never experienced anything so wonderful! During one of the sessions, Jason Sumner mentioned that there was an event at “Just Show Up” for BIH. I noted it down as I wanted to know more about BIH. I visited their website and discovered that they offered an array of enriching classes led by seasoned educators.

My small group leader from church suggested I take BIH classes. Her words were like seeds planted in soil. God watered the soil in my heart which eventually led me to enroll in classes and ultimately pursue a Certificate in Biblical Studies.

I enrolled in Pastor Gary Lau’s class. My mindset began to change and reshape my perspective on reading the Bible. The Bible is a book about Jesus, not about me. God orchestrated my path, surrounding me with wise and godly mentors like

Pastor Gary and Dr. Cuevas. Their wisdom and guidance came at a much-needed time in my life. In Dr. Cuevas’ Ecclesiastes class, I learned that the fear of the Lord starts with a good understanding about God’s sovereignty. He has control over

everything. It calls for our reverence, worship, awe, and respect for God. In “Proverbs: An Introduction and Commentary,” Derek Kidner provides valuable insights. He defines the fear of the Lord as “a worshiping submission (fear) to the God of the covenant who has revealed Himself by name (the Lord, i.e., Yahweh: Exod. 3:13-15)” (56).

I cannot express how much of an honor it has been to meet and learn from Pastor Rodney Wong, Pastor Gary Lau, Dr. J.R. Cuevas, Pastor Todd Capen, Drs. Rick and Martha Stinton, Dr. Chaplain Elijah Pierick, Nanette Williams, Dr. James Kwong, Dr. Matt Sanders, Dr. Gary Manning, Pastor Earl Morihara, Dr. Randy Furushima, and Sanford Tom. Not only have I learned to study the Bible more accurately, but I have been greatly encouraged by observing all my teachers living as exemplary godly men and women for the Lord. Additionally, my heart has been touched by numerous wonderful classmates. I am very grateful for the friendships I have formed. It has been an incredible privilege to be part of such a loving, warm, and caring group of people.

I have learned what the “fear of the Lord” is. God put me on a journey, and what I discovered was more than I could have ever asked for or imagined. It reminds me of Paul praising God for the Gentile’s understanding of the gospel in Ephesians 3:20. He said it best, “Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen” (NIV).



An ‘Ohana Celebration: Marti Ann’s Daughter’s UNLV Graduation!



**Facilitators:**  
**Jason Sumner and  
Rodney Wong**  
Sept. 19 – Nov. 14, 2023  
(8 weeks, except 10/31)  
Tuesdays, 7:15 – 8:30 pm  
**FREE Zoom Online at  
[www.biblehawaii.org](http://www.biblehawaii.org)**

