

Fathers in the Family: Trouble in Paradise Series

June 17 – 18, 2023

Today, on this Fathers Day, we get to celebrate the heads of the households, those of us who get to be fathers. Surely, we live in a not so perfect world, and there is Trouble in Paradise, or as we local peopo tell, Pilikia in Paradise as we get broken families, single parents, and orphans, but the good news is that we have a perfect Father God, our heavenly father, that never lets us down, always keeps his promises, always protects, always is present, and always good! He's a good good father who is perfect in all of his ways! And he loves us so! And that's such good news, especially on this fathers day! You agree, then tell, Dass right!

We're ending our Trouble/Pilikia in Paradise series and we've learned that our Edens have been tainted with so much relational pilikia troubles and that's why we've camped out on the theme of forgiveness for past two weekends. I'll never forget that picture PGlenn gave us about what unforgiveness does too us. It's like having that heavy weight ball shackled to us and we walk in life with a limp. If you missed that, gotta watch that!

For you fathers, how best would you like to be honored on this father's day. A show of hands. Getting a present from your kids, giving you the rest of the day to do something you like to do, taking you out for a meal, getting a card, receiving a call from your kids, having them telling you they love and appreciate you, or just having your family together with you? Well for me, it's all that! I'd like to share with you something that gave me great joy recently as a father!

(SHOW VIDEO Clarke Graduation 1:03).

And if that wasn't enough joy for me, today, I get to coordinate a Resolution For Men ceremony later here today as 30 men have gone through this R4M study for the past six weeks. Each Th, we'd gather here, get challenged to be men of resolve in different areas of our lives.

(show Pics of the men)

We break up in smaller groups and share about our challenges, our weaknesses, make confessions, speak into one another, no shame cry with each other too, and pray with and for each other. It's been a life changing six wk journey and today we get to culminate that with a ceremony where these men will boldly make those resolution vows in front of their family and us their church ohana.

Some of those men's wives have gone through their own Resolution for Women study, same night across the street at the Cane St. Café. They too are celebrating their journey. THIS HAS BEEN AN ALIGNMENT study. If you are saying, I missed it!, No problem, cuz Plori goin continue to wahine focus and one of the Men's OG goin do um on Sunday after 2nd service.

Question: Have you had bad headaches cuz you were out of alignment, neck or back was out of whack? And cuz of that caused bad headaches, maybe even migraines?

If you have a bad headache, maybe a migraine, how does that affect your whole body? If the head is not right, the whole body is affected.

How about if your car wheels are out of alignment? What happens? No matter how tuned up your car is, if your wheels are out of alignment, you no goin experience one good ride. Likewise, it is so in our relational and

spiritual lives. If our heads are not in alignment, like tires, it will affect the whole ride.

So when we are in right alignment, everything should fall into place, spiritually speaking.

When fathers humbly assume their headship role, taking up his mandate to lead like Jesus, as servant leaders, being emotionally and physically present and engaged, assume their role as provider and protector, and they love and lead their wives well, walking closely with God, THEN the whole family, comes in alignment. If the head is screwed on well, and functioning well, the whole body functions well.

On the other hand, if the head not screwed on well, out of alignment with the rest of the body, the body going be all what, hamajang! Especially if we are not individually aligned with God everything around us men is out of order, no smooth riding. Maybe the husband is not leading at all (no moa head, headless ride), or he let the wife lead, or maybe the kids take control. If that continues, eventually there is gonna be a blowout, or maybe even a crash. And us men, husbands, can't allow that to happen on our watch.

We gotta go to a heavenly chiropractor/physical therapist to get our heads realigned so that the rest of his body can function well. Jesus is the best realignment technician there is. If we allow him to align us back to God's blueprint for men to be in their role as son of God, walking in dependence on their Father God, as a strong servant leading husband, and an always engaged father to his kids.

Tonight/Today, we'll hear a great story from our history as special people of God who got their alignment adjustments to live well from Israel's new leader who would lead them from wandering in the wilderness to parading

in paradise, their Eden of the Promised Land. You ready to hear about his alignment plan?

Ohana Group/Personal Reflection Q1: How was your life like before Jesus in regards to being aligned to God's blueprint for your life? On a scale of 1 – 10 with 10 being in perfect alignment to God's blueprint, how would you rate your alignment? And Why?

God is gonna provide us with the necessary provisions for walking out our new lives. As God brings us back into alignment, he'll provide each of us with his provision pack. That we gotta make sure we carry everyday! Can't leave home without it! (Bring Backpack)

God promised the Israelites that they would be able to conquer the land with its indigenous Canaanite nations, Amorites, the Girgashites, the Hittites, the Hivites, the Jebusites, the Perizzites, and the Mosquitobites. And Moses sent out the spies to report back on the agriculture and lay of the land, but most of the spies saw fortified cities and resident giants and that was scary for them so they reports, "no can conquer the land". Ten of the spies decided to bring back an unbalanced report, focusing on the difficulty of the task before them.

Two of the spies, however — You know their names? Joshua and Caleb had faith and could see beyond the natural and believed they could conquer the land. Then Caleb silenced the people before Moses and said, "We'll go up and take possession of the land fo shua we can do it."

You no hear the names of these other spies no more cuz they neva have faith. Neva have the spiritual kohones, wasn't courageous to see that God could overcome all those obstacles.

I'm sure we don't want that to be our legacy, that we weren't courageous in our faith to walk out the promises of God in our lives.

So that's the background of this story. And Joshua speaks courage into those who would enter the promised land.

Let's learn from this story about how we are to be strong and courageous whenever we make some alignment adjustments in our lives. No more will they just wander in the wilderness! They'll take hold of the promise of a new life! As God equip them for their new lives with his provision pack.

And you and I have access to this as well, not just for fathers, but for everyone else as well. So listen up and see how God equipped them and how we can be equipped for our lives today. Are you ready?

Let's read from the book of Joshua chapter 1

1After the death of Moses the Lord's servant, the Lord spoke to Joshua son of Nun, Moses' assistant. He said, 2"Moses my servant is dead. Therefore, the time has come for you to lead these people, the Israelites, across the Jordan River into the land I am giving them. 3I promise you what I promised Moses: 'Wherever you set foot, you will be on land I have given you— 4from the Negev wilderness in the south to the Lebanon mountains in the north, from the Euphrates River in the east to the Mediterranean Sea in the west, including all the land of the Hittites.' 5No one will be able to stand against you as long as you live. For I will be with you as I was with Moses. I will not fail you or abandon you. **(Keynote)**

Like God spoke to Joshua, God speaks to us today. And I hope you believe that God speaks to us today and tells you as you enter into your new life. It's God's call for you to live in a new reality. The maker of your life, the author of your life, is given you Authority, the right, the mandate for you to take back ground. So walk in that authority he has given you. That's number 1.

1. Walk in His Authority (Keynote)

6"Be strong and courageous, for you are the one who will lead these people to possess all the land I swore to their ancestors I would give them. 7Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the instructions Moses gave you. Do not deviate from them, turning either to the right or to the left. Then you will be successful in everything you do. 8Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do. 9This is my command—be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." **(Keynote)**

God going give you his blueprints of success, his very words: You just gotta meditate on it, study um and obey it. You have the words of life! Take God's word, but don't just read it, meditate on it, when? Day and Night! And that's it? No, you must obey everything in it. For the men, maybe you should take along the The Resolution For Men Books as well. Throw um in your pack as well. That's number 2:

2. Walk with his Word (Keynote)

Number 3: **Walk with His Presence** God promises his very presence. As you walk in authority, take up your rightful role, he'll not only give you the blueprints for success, but he'll be with you along the way. He'll guide you if you let him. He'll speak to you if you pay attention to his promptings, He'll go before your battles if you are willing to fight the right fights. Can you receive that promise of his very presence in your life?

Today, don't you know that you and I have his very presence wherever to go? How so? If you've said yes to Jesus, his very presence, the Good An Spesho Spirit, the Holy Spirit stay in your life.

10Joshua then commanded the officers of Israel, 11"Go through the camp and tell the people to get their provisions ready. In three days you will cross the Jordan River and take possession

of the land the Lord your God is giving you.” 12Then Joshua called together the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and the half-tribe of Manasseh. He told them, 13“Remember what Moses, the servant of the Lord, commanded you: ‘The Lord your God is giving you a place of rest. He has given you this land. **(Keynote)**

Like Joshua called out to the tribe leaders, Reuben, Gad, Manasseh, get your people ready for this promise. God is not calling us out. He’s providing others along the journey with you cuz He doesn’t want you to do it alone. Sadly, way too many people do it alone. That never was God’s plan. God’s design was that we’d be the people together, it’s always “Mo betta togedda”. That’s Number 4.

4. We are Mo Betta Togedda (Throw in that shirt in the provision pack too)

He’s calling out the tribe of Rosarios, the tribe of Kawasujis, Cabatbats, Llantos, etc. We have support! Ongoing support for what he’s called us to do and live by.

And Joshua repeats this phrase, “Be strong and courageous”. You know how many times, seven times! In pidgin we tell, “**No sked um, go get um**” Repeat afta me, “No sked um, go get um” That’s our rallying cry us fo us! So what again?

Ohana Group/Personal Reflection Q2: Review those four elements you are to bring in your provision pack into your Promised Land as noted in Joshua chapter 1. What elements are you needing to activate more? What steps do you discern you should take to activate more of that element?

(Testimony) I’d like to have you hear from one man that has gone through the Resolution for Men Study and hear from him how his life wasn’t aligned

correctly before Jesus because he didn't have great examples of Godly men in his life, how that affected his life, and how now with Jesus, his life is radically different with himself, his wife and children.

Isn't that good! Well, it gets better because you get to hear from his wife, Jodi, as she testifies how God has made a difference in Kai and her life.

Amazing story of a man whose life started with some misaligned father figures. And how you heard that caused hamajang in his life that spilled over into his marriage and his fatherhood. But because of the power of Jesus to align us back and do some major inner healing and deliverance from wounds of his past, he is now able to live in peace, freedom, and fulfillment to be that Resolution Man that God intended Kai to live.

Look what happens when one man can experience walking with God and how that affects his wife and kids and so many around him cuz he's walking in right alignment with God. Let's thank the Kawasugis for sharing.

Ohana Group/Personal Reflection Q3: How was your life like before Jesus in regards to being aligned to God's blueprint for your life? On a scale of 1 – 10 with 10 being in perfect alignment to God's blueprint, how would you rate your alignment? And Why?

Ohana Group/Personal Reflection Q4: What did the Holy Spirit speak to you about your life as you heard Kai and Jodi Kawasugi share their alignment story?

Let me end the story of Joshua leading the people into the promised land.

And now, I want to transition our service into that Resolution For Men Ceremony.

Men will stand where there are with their families standing with them. (KEYNOTE OF THE RESOLUTIONS, to be shown one after the other).

End with **Joshua's Charge to the Israelites** at the end of the book of Joshua. Let me read this story and allow me to be Joshua calling you out today! I've highlighted the congregation's response in BLACK.

11"When you crossed the Jordan River and came to Jericho, the men of Jericho fought against you, as did the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Girgashites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. But I gave you victory over them. 12And I sent terror ahead of you to drive out the two kings of the Amorites. It was not your swords or bows that brought you victory. 13I gave you land you had not worked on, and I gave you towns you did not build—the towns where you are now living. I gave you vineyards and olive groves for food, though you did not plant them.

14"So fear the Lord and serve him wholeheartedly. Put away forever the idols your ancestors worshiped when they lived beyond the Euphrates River and in Egypt. Serve the Lord alone. 15But if you refuse to serve the Lord, then choose today whom you will serve. Would you prefer the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates? Or will it be the gods of the Amorites in whose land you now live? But as for me and my family, we will serve the Lord."

16The people replied, **"We would never abandon the Lord and serve other gods. 17For the Lord our God is the one who rescued us and our ancestors from slavery in the land of Egypt. He performed mighty miracles before our very eyes. As we traveled through the wilderness among our enemies, he preserved us. 18It was the Lord who drove out the Amorites and the other**

nations living here in the land. So we, too, will serve the Lord, for he alone is our God."

19Then Joshua warned the people, "You are not able to serve the Lord, for he is a holy and jealous God. He will not forgive your rebellion and your sins. 20If you abandon the Lord and serve other gods, he will turn against you and destroy you, even though he has been so good to you."

21But the people answered Joshua, **"No, we will serve the Lord!"**

22"You are a witness to your own decision," Joshua said. "You have chosen to serve the Lord."

"Yes," they replied, **"we are witnesses to what we have said."**

23"All right then," Joshua said, "destroy the idols among you, and turn your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel."

24The people said to Joshua, **"We will serve the Lord our God. We will obey him alone."** Joshua 24:11-24.

(Keynote)

Benediction: Family Prayer Song