

EVERY HALE A HALE PULE – February 9-10, 2025

Video for Superbowl Sunday – So cool! The setting might be football and Superbowl 59, but the main event is glory to God. Amen! It's a beautiful thing to see these men so dedicated and surrendered to God. As a couple of them shared, that no matter what the game looks like, it's not about the winning or losing, it's about giving glory to God. Amen!

Extension of impact moments

Say – we got a lot to celebrate. This weekend is a super celebration weekend not just because of Superbowl Sunday, but because...

1. P. Earl caught his CHIBI ... **take a look at this video.**
2. The close of our 40-Day Fast season – Yay! So, we close the fasting with feasting on His Word and with His Spirit ... and poke so come get it at refreshments after service.
 - The fast has been an amazing time of revelation. Speaking with different individuals about how God has been using this time to reveal and break strongholds, for folks to press into greater worship, and to level up their faith. God is on the move!

Recap of the series

In this series we've been studying what it means when the people of God become a people of prayer. Where prayer, or PULE, is not just an afterthought, it's the foundation of our homes... bigger than that... the foundation of our community.

This week we will continue to recognize and study God's original intention in building a Hale Pule. And because it is a super celebration weekend, today, we celebrate God's harkening us back to HIM and back to the purpose, identity, and life He has created us for.

Jumping into Gods intentions for Hale Pule – Let's look at . . .

Acts 2:42 ... **The Fellowship of the Believers**

⁴² They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and **to prayer.**⁴³ Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. ⁴⁴ All the believers were together and had everything in common. ⁴⁵ They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need.⁴⁶ Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Take note that the people dedicated themselves to prayer (P), teaching (U), fellowship (L), breaking bread (E) What was cool is that as they continued in His presence, more people gathered, as more people gathered, community grew, more folks engaged in His presence, and more gathered, and so on. As we begin to step into being a house of prayer, humbling comes, worship comes, honor and reverence and the awe of God comes because His spirit comes. And we begin to see what we see in the Acts 2 church. God's Dunamis power begins to move.

Dunamis: A spiritual power in the Bible that comes from God and is described as a power that multiplies itself for God's glory and honor. It is a power given to every believer through the Holy Spirit.

No one must contrive anything, it is not derived by humans, BUT BY GOD. And we're believing that this can be a reality in every home, in every community today. As shared last week, every Hale Pule – centered on His presence, not centered on possessions, power, or comfort.

Your testimony in seeing Hale Pule (times with football study, worship, etc.):

- I know many of us have been blessed to see God in action when we surrender our Hale to our Lord. It was about 22 years ago when we first experienced this. My husband Guy and I oversaw the PAL sports. Our two boys were little, and we had no family in Wahiawa. So, our close friends connected to Wahiawa and the sports folks were our hanai family. So, football season. We had a few families that we began talking about God with (lol, we would share the notes from service). The Wahiawa campus did not exist. But our discussions began to grow and a some of the folks began to come to church. Each game night there were two games so, first game we would gather, pray, eat, and discuss the word from the weekend. The next game would start, and the first game parents would hangout and gather, pray, eat, and discuss the word from the weekend. These times grew until we outgrew gathering under the 10 x 20 tent.

We have fond memories of connecting with the Wahiawa worship team every week at our house. We would have practice outside under the tent or on clear nights under the stars with the firepit. We would share each other's burdens, talk story, laugh, pray, worship, and encounter the presence of God.

We believe gathering in the presence of God to just live, so that His power can shape and form our lives to honor Him is God's original intention. I think it is critical for us to know from the time of Genesis God has been in the process of restoring creation back to Him. That is what the entire story of the Bible is about. The reunification of heaven and earth and of God and His people.

And He has been TRUE to this. His people ... not so much.

Recall God delivers the Israelites from being enslaved under Egyptian rule. God's plan is to restore them. He is setting them up for great things by giving them the law parameters for success. No sooner than those tablets are given to Moses at Mt. Sinai that the impatient people decide to build a golden calf to worship as their gods. Essentially, they went back to what they knew and turned away from God to worship other gods of their past. God saved them, provided for them but rather than waiting and praying they become corrupt and reject Him.

Fast forward 740 years, the prophet Isaiah sees that God's house is a house of prayer for all nations. Accepting of everyone.

Fast forward another 100 years from Isaiah, the prophet Jeremiah ¹¹ Has this house, which is called by My name, become a den of robbers in your sight? Behold, I Myself have seen it," declares the Lord. I won't go into all the details but basically folks were cheating the less fortunate and foreigners for their own benefit.

Then, approx. 700 years later in Mark, Matthew, and Luke – John has a similar account (all four gospels) where Jesus goes to the temple. Turns over the "market" tables and again says, "It is written, my house is a house of prayer, but you have made it a den of robbers or thieves. Are we seeing this? Time and again, people have come against God's plan for a Hale Pule.

There is a lesson here for us as we gather our Hale Pule. Because I just bet people got tired of waiting on God and seeing their wants come to pass so like the Israelites of the past, they found other ways. Ways other than God's ways. When God's people fail to honor God and honor our relationships, a house of prayer becomes a house of horror. As P. Mark would put it, A Hale Pule becomes A Hale Pilau.

The other day Charis and I were talking about healthy eating and the idea of eating to live vs living to eat. When we're eating to live, we are careful about what we are intaking. We are looking at how best to fuel our bodies. How best to support what we need vs living to eat. Where we will ravage anything and everything to satisfy every hunger that we have. Good or bad. It will define where you end up. In one situation, you get to define your end goal. In the other, your hungers will define you and result in self destruction. This is also true of our spiritual lives and our Hale Pule.

But there is hope. We look to the Acts 2 church because After Jesus' **death, resurrection, and Pentecost**, the early church **reclaimed God's vision for community**—as we learned last week through P. Theresa and Zacchaeus, centered not on power, wealth, or politics, but on **His manifest presence and Dunamis power**. They knew God is real. And that gave Hope and empowered them to rise above every proclivity, every penchant, every temptation, every addiction, every hurt, every unforgiveness, every attack of the enemy to cause division and tear His people apart. That same power resides in each one who has

said “Yes” to Him. So, that we need not be distracted, we need not fall to desperation, we need to hold fast to God.

Everything that isn't for God will take you away from God.

So that when we ask ourselves, “What're we building? Are we building a Hale Pule (a house of prayer & presence) or are we building a Hale Pilau (a house of decay and disconnection)? We can say with confidence a House of Prayer. And He will use each house as seed for other houses. That should there be a situation where we cannot go to church the light of the Hale Pule's will continue to shine God's light.

Here to share a bit about their Hale Pule is Debbie and Bryan Shinsato ...

Debbie & Bryan Shinsato's Testimony

Recall the prophet Isaiah's vision - We have a promise from God for those who draw near to Him, those who keep His covenants, honor, and dedicate their homes to God, His House will be a House of prayer for all nations.

PRAYER - The gift is Himself—His love, His grace. We just need to receive it. HALE PULE.

Call to Action:

Each of us will see what that looks like in our own lives. Every Hale Pule—our homes, families, workplaces, schools, and community — will be unique, but they will all have one thing in common: God's presence at its center.

- So, this day, let us commit to living out PULE—prayer, uplifting others, laughter, and shared meals as a blueprint for Kingdom life today.
- Choose to build a Hale Pule—a home and community centered on God's presence!
- Let us invite God to break out in our midst just as He did in Acts.
- AND JUST WATCH WHAT HE DOES!

AMEN!

If you need help or want to talk with someone about domestic violence, please contact someone from this social services list on <https://www.nhcohawaii.org/socialservices/>

Ohana Group Discussion Questions

- What did God speak to you through this message?
- What does "Every Hale a Hale Pule" mean? How does it fit in God's plan?

- How are you committing to living out P.U.L.E. as a blueprint for Kingdom life today?
- Do you believe God's Spirit can break out in our midst like in Acts 2?
- How do we increase His presence throughout our homes for God's glory?