



CRYSTAL
CATHEDRAL

Hour of Power Schweiz
Seestrasse 34
CH-3700 Spiez

Telefon +41 (0) 33 655 06 36
Telefax +41 (0) 33 655 06 37

E-Mail: info@hourofpower.ch
www.hourofpower.ch

Postkonto 17-260489-8

HOOR OF POWER FROM JULY 18TH, 2010

The Judo of Self Control (Dan Chun)

OPENING SENTENCE - RHS

RHS: This is the day that God has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

PROGRAM OPENING/TRUMPET FANFARE/V.O.

VO: Today on the Hour of Power: Pastor Stanford contracted HIV through a blood transfusion at the age of 16 and given two years to live. Twenty years later, he's married with three children and gives God all the glory.

SS: My ministry at that point really turned and became not just about being an HIV positive pastor, but a pastor who wants people to model and to choose hope because that's what God has intended for us through Christ.

VO: Also today, young piano virtuoso Richard Rivale. (PIANO MUSIC PLAYING) Then, stay tuned as Dr. Schuller welcomes Dan Chun, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Honolulu with his incredibly helpful and insightful message, "The Judo of Self-Control."

DC: It's not easy to face challenges and still be able to say Ha! Hallelujah Anyway. But our bible passage says today that if we have self-control, we can live a Hallelujah Anyway life.

VO: If you need a lift today, you've tuned to the right program. Join us today for the best hour on television, the Hour of Power from the Crystal Cathedral.

HYMN - "Joyful, Joyful.."

Joyful, joyful, we adore You, God of glory, Lord of love; Hearts unfold like flowers before You, opening to the sun above. Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; Drive the dark of doubt away; Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day. Amen! Amen! Amen!

GOOD MORNING/INVOCATION

RHS: Welcome to the house of God. Welcome to Sunday morning, His hour to bless us. Turn around, shake hands with someone and give them the blessing, God loves you and so do I. Sheila, offer a prayer.

SSC: I would be glad to. Heavenly Father, oh You are the model Father. You are the perfect Father. You are the powerful Father, the loving, gracious, merciful Father. Thank you, Father, for loving us, for being here with us, for not leaving us alone but for sending Your son and then Your holy spirit to guide us, to lead us, to sustain us. We worship You, we praise You, we thank You today, Amen.

RHS: Amen.

HYMN - "Come Worship, Let us Sing/I Sing"

Come worship, let us sing Alleluia! Amen! Loud praise to Christ our King Alleluia! Amen! Let all, with heart and voice, before Him now rejoice. Praise is His gracious choice Alleluia! Amen!

Come lift your hearts on high Alleluia! Amen! Let praises fill the sky; Alleluia! Amen! He is our Guide and Friend to us His mercy sends. His love shall never end Alleluia! Amen!

Praise yet our Christ again, Alleluia! Amen! Life shall not end the strain, Alleluia! Amen! On heaven's joyful shore His goodness we'll adore. Singing forevermore Alleluia! Amen!

BETH: And you know when we reach heaven, when we reach that golden shore, together we will be praising God's name, our healer, our provider of salvation. Will you sing praises with me this morning to His name?

I sing praises to Your name, O Lord, praises to Your name, O Lord, for Your name is great and greatly to be praised. I sing praises to Your name, O Lord, praises to Your name, O Lord, for Your name is great and greatly to be praised.

I give glory to Your name, O Lord, glory to Your name, O Lord. For Your name is great and greatly to be praised. I give glory to Your name, O Lord, glory to Your name, O Lord, for Your name is great and greatly to be praised.

SSC – ASKS CONGREGATION TO BE SEATED

SSC: You may be seated.

INTERVIEW – SHANE & POKEY STANFORD

SSC: SHEILA SCHULLER COLEMAN SS: SHANE STANFORD

PS: POKEY STANFORD

SSC: Well as you know we're in the middle of this message series called "HA! Hallelujah Anyway!" And you know I love it because when I face a rough time and I have a bad moment in my day, I just look at that trial and I go HA! Hallelujah Anyway! And it's amazing how that just changes your whole attitude and just that alone helps a lot.

Well we couldn't be doing this message series without interviewing the guest we have today, Shane Stanford and his wife Dr. Pokey Stanford. Shane was sixteen years old; he was a hemophiliac and as a hemophiliac that means that you lack the blood clotting elements in your blood so when you cut yourself or you bruise yourself, the blood continues to flow and flow and flow without factor eight, it's called in medicine. And back when Shane was a young hemophiliac, this was prior to the knowledge of AIDS, prior to the awareness of HIV positive and the factor eight was made out of blood materials that humans would donate and this is before they could screen it. And so low and behold at the age of sixteen he received the diagnosis that he was HIV positive. His book is called "A Positive Life: living with HIV as a pastor, husband and father."

Please welcome Shane and Pokey Stanford. Shane, Pokey. Was that at all medically accurate? I want to make sure I wasn't inaccurate.

SS: You did a great job. In fact the medicines in those days back in the late seventies and early eighties were considered a life changing opportunity for hemophiliacs and so factor was our hope, it was our miracle drug for hemophilia. Unfortunately of my generation we estimate about ninety percent of hemophiliacs tested positive for HIV because of the contamination in the blood supply.

SSC: Wow! I did not know that statistic. That is really, really alarming. So you were sixteen and how did this diagnosis impact your life?

SS: Well I tell people that I went to bed as the captain of the golf team and president of my class and dating the prettiest girl in school..

SSC: No question.

SS: ..and then the next day was told that I had two to three years to live and really and truly I thought that my life was over. I had come from a family of very deep and great faith, but we felt like maybe this was a mountain that was too high. And several weeks after that diagnosis, I was with my grandfather who has since gone on to be with the Lord. And he was my mentor and just my hero and he looked at me and he said "Okay what are you going to do with this?" And I told him, I said, "I don't think I have a choice." And he said, "You always have choice." He said, "You can get in the corner and feel sorry for yourself and you can have a pity party" and he said "I love you so much that I will get in the corner with you." He said, "But I think you're going to make another choice." He said, "I think you're going to make every day count." And that's what we've tried to do.

SSC: Wow, say that one more time, Shane. He said you're going to make a choice and make..

SS: Every day count.

SSC: ..every day count. What a tremendous lesson.

SS: Yes and it has not been an easy road. We've faced our set of challenges and health wise we battle day to day but every day is an opportunity to live a positive life and we're not talking about a medical diagnosis either.

SSC: And then meanwhile you're dating this beautiful girl and you told her, you had to share with her the news of your diagnosis.

SS: Absolutely, I felt like that after of course me knowing that she was the next person that needed to know. I really felt like that when I told her that she wouldn't stay, I mean what sixteen year old girl would want to face that in their future, I thought. And to my surprise and to my joy here she is.

PS: You know there are some people that God puts in your journey along the way and you know that they're your soul mate. You know that God's put them there for specific reasons and we definitely were soul mates and we knew it and fortunately our parents knew it and were very supportive and at nineteen we got married and that will have been twenty years this coming August.

SSC: Wow a twentieth anniversary, congratulations.

SS: Thank you, thank you.

PS: And they say ignorance is bliss and that was certainly the case for us. We knew that number one you don't tell anybody because this was the eighties and they were burning houses and number two that we were just in love.

SSC: Well it amazes me because here you were at nineteen and you married him knowing that in all probability you would be a widow in just two to three years.

PS: And we were told that several times. We've been told many times along the journey that he has two years to live, that he has three years to live. Unexpectedly Easter two years ago he had open heart surgery and had to tell the kids goodbye and tell me good bye. But our hope is greater than that. We have the gift of today and so I think God wants you to make the most of each day and not look at what the world tells us or all the odds that are against us, He wants us to look for His hope.

SSC: Wow, say that one more time. No matter how hard the obstacle, no matter what, He wants us to celebrate His..

PS: His hope.

SSC: His hope.

PS: His hope and His grace and His love and forgiveness and all of the things that we talk about but sometimes we forget to embrace.

SSC: It's really hard to live it.

PS: It is..

SSC: It is but you guys have done it. And then Shane, you are a pastor.

SS: That's right.

SSC: God called you to the ministry and boy you faced some amazing obstacles. Did you expect that?

SS: Well I don't know if I expected it. At the very beginning of our ministry together we kept everything very quiet and very private, but in order to be ordained in my denomination I had to go through a health screening and we knew that we were going to have to disclose my health status. And so we went through that process. It was a difficult ordination process but thankfully they agreed to ordain me and I was appointed to a church to be their pastor. And the first church to which I was appointed refused to take me based on my HIV status. And it was very unreasonable, people reacting out of fear they don't make sense. That's why those decisions are so powerful. They had threatened to burn the parsonage down. There were other things that they would say but I found that as I went on to the meeting to meet my perspective church knowing that I probably would not be appointed there, and I remember sitting across the table realizing that every one of us has some broken edge. Every one has something that we carry. We all have a disease of some kind or another that keeps us from becoming all that God has intended for us to become. And so my ministry at that point really turned and became not just about being an HIV positive pastor, but a pastor who wants people to model and to choose hope because that's what God has intended for us through Christ.

SSC: Wow, powerful. And so you have three..

SS: We do.

SSC: ..daughters and how old are they?

PS: They are thirteen, ten and six.

SSC: Thirteen, ten and six. And what if the oldest turns nineteen and wants to get married?

SS: We are going to say that, that was not a best idea for their parents. She is a great and wonderful little girl as the other two are. They're beautiful like their mom but they also have that beautiful heart where they have faced some trials in their little lives knowing dad's condition but yet they face it with such grace and with such expectation of the extravagant ways that God wants to bless us.

SSC: Your story, I mean you encountered one obstacle after another obstacle after another obstacle and instead of becoming discouraged, instead of giving up and instead of saying there's no more hope anymore, instead of curling up in the corner and having your pity party, you kept moving forward and here you are twenty years later, you know? Twenty years later you're still alive and you're married and you're the father and even though you got turned down by a church, share some of the things that God has done in opening up doors for you in ministry, Shane, it's exciting.

SS: Well we have had the opportunity over the last couple of years to be involved in speaking and sharing our story and just going to amazing places that I don't believe that otherwise we would have had that opportunity. I also have the privilege of pastoring Gulf Breeze United Methodist church outside of Pensacola Florida and it's a wonderful, intimate congregation of five thousand that do a great work in their community. But I would have to say that it would have been easy for us to give up. It would have been easy for us to have thought that this was the end of the story, when actually this is the beginning of the story. We transition into something that God has in store for us that we can't even put words to and that's what He wants for us each day, not just eternal life, but the book talks about how He wants us to feel the power of abundant life. And God loves you and knows you for who are from the inside out and God wants you to be

honest with who you are and not have to live in fear. And I think that so many of the things that we deal with are related to those secrets. God is not a God of secrets.

SSC: That's right, that's right. Well thank you so much for sharing your story, for being so open and so transparent and God bless you. Can I have a prayer with the two of you a minute?

SS: Absolutely.

SSC: Lord Jesus, I just pray for Shane, I pray for Pokey, I pray for their family. Oh Lord, please continue to use him. Open doors for him that he can share this message that You are God. You will have the last word and it will be good. Thank You Lord, Amen.

SS: Amen. Thank you.

SSC: God bless you.

SS: Bless you.

ANTHEM - "God is Our Refuge and Strength"

God is our refuge and strength; A present help in time of trouble. Though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea, though the waters roar and foam we will not fear.

Come and behold the work of the Lord, the awesome acts of God. He is in the midst of His people, in all the earth. He is the Word, we are His hands, He will lead us. He is the air, we are His song, we will celebrate His presence all the day long.

God is our refuge and strength; A present help in time of trouble. Though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea, though the waters roar and foam we will not fear.

Come and behold the work of the Lord, the awesome acts of God. He is our God, He is in the midst of His people, He is our God, in all the earth. He is the Word, we are His hands, He will lead us. He is the air, we are His song, we will celebrate His presence all the day long.

God is our refuge and strength; A present help in time of trouble. Though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea, though the waters roar and foam we will not fear, we will not fear, we will not fear, we will not fear!

SSC INTRODUCES RICHARD RIVALE

SSC: I'm so proud to introduce to you one of our top students at the Crystal Cathedral Academy. I believe I met Richard when he was in first grade. And now he is in 7th grade, an honors student. He won the music teacher's association of California piano solo competition last fall. He's also been the recipient of the Roger Williams scholarship, the Johnnie Carl award through the Arvella Schuller Scholarship program. And what he's playing is his own arrangement. Please welcome with me Richard Rivale, Richard.

PIANO SOLO – RICHARD RIVALE – “Waltzing Grace”

RHS THANK YOU TO RICHARD RIVALE

RHS: Thank you Richard! You're wonderful. God loves you, so do I. Come back again soon.

INTRODUCTION TO DAN CHUN - RHS

RHS: The scripture reading this morning. I'm reading it before the message of the day because our message today is being brought to us by one of my favorite preachers and friends. His name is Dan Chun. He's been here before. He's a regular accredited preacher to the pulpit of the Crystal Cathedral. He is the senior pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Honolulu, one of the largest churches in the Hawaiian Islands. He's earned degrees from Lewis and Clark College, from the University of Southern California, from Fuller Theological Seminary and in 1983 Dan and his wife, Pam started something very unique: a Hawaiian ministry just to invite pastors and church leaders to come together and encourage each other in the Christian faith and life. And it filled a lot of loneliness and gave a lot of inspiration and encouragement to ministers who needed it and this past conference they had three thousand, eight hundred participants from three hundred churches throughout the Hawaiian Islands and the world. Thank him for that.

His message for today is "Judo for Self-Control." Great title. Got my attention. I don't even do regular judo. A very insightful message.

SCRIPTURE – 2 PETER 1 - RHS

RHS: And before he speaks, hear these words from the scriptures. Second Peter chapter one:

Grace and peace be yours in abundance through your knowledge of God and Jesus our Lord. His divine power has given us everything we need for life and Godliness through our knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and goodness. Through these He has given us very great and precious promises so that through them you may participate in the divine nature of destiny. For this very reason make every effort to add to your faith goodness and to add to goodness knowledge and to knowledge self control. And to self-control perseverance and to perseverance Godliness and to Godliness brotherly kindness and to brotherly kindness love. Off the record let me say something. You can see now how when Christ comes in to be your Lord and your friend and Savior, the Christian life is a growing thing. It is a process. Layer upon layer, knowledge, glory, goodness, self-control, perseverance, Godliness, brotherly kindness and to brotherly kindness love. Finally for if you do these things you will never fall. And you will receive a rich welcome to the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Hallelujah.

This is the word of God.

Now the preacher of the day, Dan Chun. Thank you for coming back.

DC: Thank you. God bless you.

MESSAGE/PRAYER – DAN CHUN

"The Judo of Self Control"

DC: Clearly Dr. Robert Schuller is the best scripture reader in the world. When he reads scripture the word of God comes so alive and you can just feel your soul marinating in the Lords love and His goodness and His wise counsel. And I have such a deep appreciation for Arvella and Robert and Sheila and the Schuller's. They have spoken into my life in a multitude of ways and literally our ministry would not be where it's at, geographically as the Schuller's encouraged First Presbyterian church to move into a two hundred forty acre golf course. We would not be where we are qualitatively or quantitatively if it were not for the Schuller's so praise God. It's an honor to be here.

Well good morning and aloha to you all! Coming up to Los Angeles is always fun but if you have a fear of flying it is not always fun, especially if what happened to me last month could happen to you. On that flight were four members of the cast of the TV show called LOST. How would you feel that the cast of a show about a group of people on the same plane that crashes and the people ended up stranded on an island for years and this is their last season. And also on the plane a few rows ahead of me was my friend from First Pres Honolulu, the famous POW Jerry Coffee who in real life was a pilot whose plane did crash. Unnerving.

But whether you are cool or not, having self-control doesn't come naturally to most of us, nor is it easy especially if self-control is needed in the face of criticism and conflict. Self-control takes a lot of work. It takes a lot of energy. It takes a lot of practice. It's not easy to face challenges and still be able to say HA! Hallelujah Anyway! But our bible passage says today that if we have self-control, we can live a Hallelujah Anyway! life. It urges us to have self-control, which brings us closer to God and love more effectively through God's power.

If you're here today or watching on television and you have a delicate relationship that you need to work out or want to be skilled in handling interpersonal conflict and need some self-control in dealing with difficult people, then you are at the right place today. Here's the myth: People who have self-control are naturally calm, even-keeled and unflappable. That's not it. Here's the truth: People who are good at keeping themselves in check are externally immovable but internally very active.

And they are, in a sense, people who are good at judo. Now what do I mean by that? Unlike most other martial arts, Judo does not tell you to punch back your opponent. Actually, the word "Judo" means "the gentle way." And when an opponent rushes towards you, the expert judo wrestler takes the full force of the assailant and uses the opponent's weight and speed and strength to push him away or flip him or push him down but that process often begins with the opponent being pulled closer to you. And using good footwork and well-placed hands, you can flip an opponent past you and then put him on his back, decisively ending the match in your favor. Having self-control is like doing judo with a Hallelujah Always ending. So pay attention, friends. By the end of today's worship we may go from a white belt to maybe a black belt in self-control.

Hence this morning, I am going to talk about "The Judo of Self-Control" in the face of personal arguments and conflicts and challenges in your life. What I'm going to share with you is something that I have used for 20 plus years, and it has worked almost every single time. It has changed moments of conflict into reconciliation. It really works. So let's get on the sermon mat with me and let's go.

First, what to do in the face of anger or complaint or criticism or even verbal assaults. And maybe something is coming down the line so this sermon is about to prep you. All of us have faced angry people. They come at us with hurtful words, or unfair accusations, false perceptions. And if we allow the Holy Spirit to guide us, we will have empowerment from God to do the following.

First of all, think of the vowels A-E-I-O-U when facing an angry or critical person. Using these letters to remember as a step by step process what to do in your next argument or disagreement and have the Holy Spirit guide you, it could save your life. So "A," if you're taking notes, stands for active listening. The first thing we should do in responding to angry verbal punches is practical active listening. When people are angry with me I allow them to in a sense verbally pummel me for a bit. I pull them closer, I don't push them back. I listen very, very carefully to see if there are any seeds of truth in which they are saying. In every

argument or accusation there's always a seed of truth. Maybe it wasn't my fault; Maybe I wasn't sensitive; Maybe I forgot; Maybe I wasn't paying attention; Maybe I didn't know better. I listen to clarify if indeed I was in the wrong. And as in judo, I let them come at me with their full force, and I go into active listening, restating their words back to them to make sure I got it right. I say, "Yes, you are angry with me. I let you down. It's not the first time you say, and this really bugs you. I wasn't paying attention. You feel hurt and disappointed in my actions." And any words they give me, I try to repeat and restate to show that I am indeed listening.

Then not only do I actively listen, I empathize with them. This is the "E" in the vowels A-E-I-O-U. E is for Empathy. I let the full force of their verbal punches fly at me. Then, I not only take the punch but I pull it towards me to give it even more speed by being empathetic. A person criticizes me for not performing well or for being insensitive. I don't disagree or refute their words, but I say, "Man, you're angry at me. I really let you down. You know if someone let me down the way you feel that I let you down, I would be ticked off at me, too. So in a sense of grabbing their arm and pulling it towards me, it would make me so disappointed, in fact it would make my blood boil. So, man, I hear you." I take the full force of their disagreement or disappointment, pull them towards me and add my own empathetic, "Yes, I would be angry at Dan, too."

And this is not inauthentic or tricky because I really, genuinely want to be in their shoes and imagine what they feel. And this is helpful for all relationships; friendships, marriages, bosses, colleagues, whatever. I want to be actively listening and empathizing. And this should take up most of the time in going through A-E-I-O-U. But then after a season of that, then comes a time when I pivot. Only now do I share my perceptions and my feeling. And this is the letter "I." "I" means we're going to talk about MY perspective. You're now going to hear about how "I" feel and I'm going to give you my feelings. I might say, "Wow, you're angry. I would think Dan is a jerk too. But you know you need to know I really didn't mean that. Yes, I was insensitive. I messed up but you need to know that it hurts me to hear that I would screw up on purpose to hurt you. I really, really didn't intend that, though I hear how you felt that I did." So I give new information. I add my perspective to theirs and the judo flip is beginning its rotation. I have taken the thrust of the punch; I'm adding my perception now, which starts to change the angle of attack. In a moment I will either flip their understanding or if they're still uncontrollably angry, then I run for my life.

But the next step and I think of and state options for making things better. And this is the letter "O." "O" is for options. I look for options to make it a win-win conclusion. Option one may be: "Hey, I misunderstood you and maybe you misunderstood me. Can we start again at square one? Let's try this again and state the problem as we both see it, and I will really listen to you and you listen to me."

Option two might be: "You know we're at an impasse. Can we go home and pray about it and try again? Or option three might be: "You know we are at an impasse and maybe we need an objective third party to help figure this all out." You see it's all about options.

Finally the judo of self-control is not all human. Whenever someone is criticizing me, I launch into prayer while I am talking to him or her one ear listening to them, one ear listening to God. I underscore this time with them in prayer. And many Christians forget this. This is the letter "U" UNDERSCORES the conversation with silent prayer. While I'm listening to the person with one ear, I'm saying in my heart and having the other ear tuned to God saying, "Lord, help me. Guide me. Find a solution. Help me figure out the possibilities created by You." I ask for

the Holy Spirit's wisdom, understanding and for a sense of humility on my part to be open to the idea that I could be really wrong in this. In fact, up to this point I am praying that I can come up with the options. So we have A, E, I, O, U and that's judo, a light touch and a decisive ending.

And now sometimes the criticism or the attack happens so fast that you can't even run through A, E, I, O or U and you look at the person and you're angry and all he can think about is J-E-R-K! But with practice and with the supernatural help of the Holy Spirit, we can have the self-control that prevents us from sinning, from returning evil with evil and insult with insult. I've had many confrontations in my life, but I've almost always reconciled with the person angry with me, 99 percent of the time when I use A-E-I-O-U.

Now there is another area that we need self-control, not just in the face of anger, and that is when we are assaulted by sexual temptation. Internet pornography is just a click away. We need self-control. Here's what's new in terms of my counseling at my church: inappropriate conversations on Facebook with old flames. We need self-control in that area, men and women. On business trips with colleagues or by ourselves we need self-control.

The strength of sexual temptation was really evident to me when years ago I was traveling with my family in a foreign country where English was not the primary language. I was sleeping in the hotel room I was sharing with my 16-year-old son, Dylan, when the phone rang about 10:15 pm. And my wife Pam and daughter Noelle and son Quinn were in another room. And a lady began talking to me in a foreign language and I told her I spoke English so please have someone call me in English so she hung up. Now awake, I thought I smelled smoke and I thought, "Gee, maybe there's a fire and she's trying to warn me." No, I told myself, so I went back to sleep.

About 10 minutes later another call came in. Same thing. Lady speaking in a foreign language. I told her I didn't understand and she hung up. I still smelled smoke, and then I heard other rooms ringing and doors opening and shutting and so I thought maybe there's a fire and they're going to evacuate us. So I got up from my bed and opened the door and looked out. Didn't see anybody, shut the door, maybe somebody smoking in the hallway, I thought, walking by. I went back to sleep. Then again my phone rang and this time a woman said in broken English that she had a message for me. And I said, "Well I want my message, I want it now, but you've got to find someone who speaks good English because I can't get my message." And she hung up so I went back to sleep. Again my phone rang. Same thing: a woman with a message for me. I said, "Listen, I want my message, I need it in English. And I want my message now."

She hangs up on me. So now I am getting pretty ticked off. I heard someone knocking on my door and I thought, "Great, we're going to be evacuated." Oh no, so I went to the door, opened it and this really pretty young woman walked into my room, I mean not just at the door, she walked like fifteen feet into my room and the first thing I thought to myself is, "Gee, this hotel has got to teach their employees how to be in people's rooms. She went in way too far."

And then she came up to me, really closely and I thought these people really need to work on their interpersonal space. This is like way too close. And my third thought was why is she looking at me that way? And suddenly as I looked into her seductive eyes, I realized I was in trouble. I felt like I was Luke Skywalker and Hans Solo in the Millennium Falcon in Star Wars, being sucked in by the tractor beam into the Death Star. And the woman said to me in English, "Oh, you called for me?"

And I said, "No, I didn't call for you."

She said, "Yes, you did, you called for me."

I said, "No I didn't." And then I noticed her clean and soft hair, and I felt the tractor beam sucking me in again. So I did what any American father would do in panic: I turned to my son who's sleeping in bed, I said, "Dylan, Dylan! Wake up!" But Dylan, a heavy sleeper, just smiled and rolled over back to sleep. And then the woman said, "Oh, he called me." And I said, "No, no, no, he didn't call you." And finally she left and my heart was pounding and so I called the front desk and I said, "I need to talk to someone in English right away. You have to give me someone. You sent an employee or someone and I need to talk to someone in English." And a minute later a man telephoned and the scene was like an old Abbot and Costello radio show, full of miscommunication.

He said, "Mr. Chun?"

And I said, "Yes I'm Mr. Chun."

And he said, "No, I'm Mr. Chun."

I said, "No, no, no I'm Mr. Chun." Back and forth we went until I realized that this was my travel guide, who happened to have the same last name as me. And I said, "Mr. Chun, what is going on here?"

And he said, "You didn't open your door to someone, did you?"

And I said, "Yes I did."

And he said, "Verrrry bad. Verrrry bad."

And I'm saying, "You're telling me it was verrry bad. What's going on here?"

And he told me that there were these parlor maids who sometimes work with the hotels calling each room at night, looking for men to answer and these parlor maids will come up to your room and service you in any way you want.

Only later did I realize that the message that they wanted to give me was really a massage. The caller was saying "massage," not "message." And to think I was saying, "I want my message, I want it now and I want it in English!" to which the caller must have thought, "Oh, he wants the massage. He wants it now, he wants it in English. Send a girl right now." Hallelujah Anyway.

So my encounter showed me how unrelenting the assaults of sexual temptation are. And whether you're traveling on the road or driving through our own city streets or browsing the magazine racks or being on the Internet, unhealthy or unholy sexual advances are everywhere. Temptation is just outside the door. The Barbarians are at the gate and the angel of death is hovering and only the blood of the Lamb will make it pass over. More than ever, we need the self-control and the Holy Spirit inside of us to protect us. When it comes to self-control, don't confuse the promise of the message of God with the massage of the world. Know this clearly. When we are in a confrontation or a temptation in which we must have self-control, we can maintain self-control as we follow Jesus.

And the Holy Spirit inside us will empower us to be clear-minded even in the face of anger and temptation and violence. I saw it in action. This is reality. We can have self-control. It's a choice. Jesus Himself modeled this. And Jesus is no wimp. As it says in 1st Peter in the second chapter, it says, "When they hurled their insults at Jesus, He did not retaliate. When He suffered, He made no threats. Instead, He entrusted Himself to God who judges justly." So know from this day on then you need not be afraid. We need not be impatient or erratic or like a loose cannon for we have been given the spirit of self-control from the Holy Spirit.

I urge you today, all who follow Jesus to look for the fruit of self-control in your lives and use it judiciously and with judo-savvy, drop the grace of Jesus into the unsuspecting lives of others, for He is Lord. Amen? Amen! God bless.

HYMN - "Take My Life and Make it New"

Take my life and make it new. Let me walk, O Lord, with You. Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of Your love, at the impulse of Your love.

Take my lips and let them share Your great love and boundless care. Take myself and I will do all things, only, all for You; all things, only, all for You.

THANK YOU/BENEDICTION - RHS

RHS: I want to thank you Dr. Dan Chun, a friend, great preacher.

And now may the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord make His face to shine upon yours. And may the Lord give you peace in your going out and in your coming in, in your labor and in your leisure, in your laughter and in your tears until you come to stand before Him in that day in which there is no sunset, no dawning, only eternal life with Him in glory. And all God's people said amen.

ANTHEM - "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"

Listen, Lord, listen! Listen to Your children. Listen, Lord, Listen to Your children praying. Listen, Lord, listen! Listen to Your children. Listen, Lord, Listen! Listen to Your children pray.

Lord, listen to Your children praying. Lord, send Your Spirit in this place. O Lord, listen to Your children praying, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace. Listen, Lord, listen! Listen to Your children. Listen, Lord, listen to Your children pray.

Lord, Lord, listen to Your children praying, listen to Your children praying. Lord, send Your Spirit in this place, send Your Spirit in this place. O Lord, Lord, listen to Your children praying. Listen to Your children praying. Send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace. Listen, Lord. Listen! Listen to Your children. Listen, Lord, listen!

Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, that calls me from a world of care. Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer.

Listen, Lord, listen to your children, listen to your children, listen to your children, listen to your children. Lord, listen to your children praying. O Lord, send your Spirit in this place. Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer. Hear your children, Lord! Send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace. Amen!