

CHRISTIANS IN REAL ESTATE

“ . . . encouraging the practice of Christian values in business relations.”

Issue No. 13 Newsletter

Spring Edition 2010

CIRE's Small Group meets the first Thursday of each month from 2 to 3 PM in the Community Room of Pacific Rim Bank at Restaurant Row. Join in for the fellowship, prayers, and sharing of scripture. For more information, contact Hiroshi Imamura at 5617958 or at hiroshi@firstclassmtg.net.

SERVING GOD IN THE WORKPLACE

By Robert Taylor, Esq.

While these have been tough economic times for Hawaii and real estate, we need to be encouraged that we serve a God that loves us and cares about everything that we do. He cares about us, our work, our families and loved ones. This is a special time for us as Christians to not compromise our values as we continue to love God and people. We need to thank Him that we have a job and give Him praise for each new day that He has given us to work for Him. Although we are encouraged to think and plan, God tells us not to worry about tomorrow because He has promised to provide for us the necessities of life. (Mt 5:25-34) We are to remember His past faithfulness to us and how He has taken us through trials and grown us in our love for Him and others. We are not to lose sight of the mark: His upward calling and Heaven (where the actual prime real estate is!).

We are in fact working for God. (Eph. 6:5-8. Rom 12:1-2). Let us focus on that and not grow weary or fearful due to the circumstances of each day. He has promised to never leave us or forsake us and that includes the time which we are at work. For most of us, that time is over one half of our waking hours. Even though we are not closing a sale, God gives us special opportunities to glorify Him by encouraging people we meet each day. By helping people at our work, we are being "others" centered and we worry less about ourselves.

God encourages us to do "good" work with "goodwill." (Eph.6 :5-8) . We serve a great Lord and our service is to be the best there is. Whatever we do, we are to do it all for the glory of God. (1 Cor 10:31). Our attitude with which we do our work is very important to God. These are times of great temptation when we might be tempted to compromise our faith by cutting corners just to close a deal. But, our God is greater than and He will vindicate us in the end if we love our customer or

continued on page 2 . . .



Event: *Coming Alive*

Date: Thursday, April 1, 2010

Place: Hale Koa Hotel
Waikiki Ballroom

Time: 11:15 AM Sign-In
11:30 AM Starts
1:30 PM Pau

Lunch:

Reservations @ \$30
Prepay by Mar. 29, 2010

Sharing:

Bryan Yamashita

“(don’t) be angry . . . look for the positive in her death”.

Jimmy Yamada, Jr.

“I have seen God’s hand . . .”

Larry Lovewell

A voice that matches his name

For reservations, call 734-0541,
email cirehawaii@hawaii.rr.com,
or go to christiansinrealestate.org

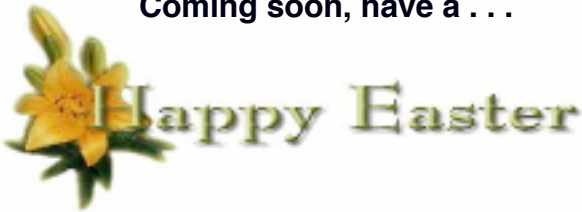
ctd from page 1 . . .

client by doing the right thing. And if we have failed in the past, God will pick us up and give us a brand new day with new opportunities to serve Him. He wants us to learn from our past failures, to move on and not dwell on them.

So, we have a wonderful opportunity if we are in the secular workplace. We have special opportunities not normally given to those who work for a church. We can touch people with His love and our work who would never think of coming to church. If we are serving Christ in the workplace through faith we can have unspeakable joy as we give people the love with which our God has loved us. And, we will hear, "well done good and faithful servant" and rejoice.

(Robert Taylor is an attorney handling cases of serious injury and death and is a teacher to those who counsel the hurt. He can be reached at 5361197 or see his website at www.roberttaylorlaw.com.)

Coming soon, have a . . .



Does Your Client Qualify for the Home Buyer Credit?

By Rodney Saito, CPA

Real estate agents should exercise caution when advising their buyers if they qualify for the homebuyer credit. In certain instances, buyers may not. Agents should be aware of the following cases among others where buyers would not qualify for the homebuyer credit.

Q. I am a long-time resident (have owned and used my current home as a principal residence for five consecutive years out of the eight-year period ending on the date of purchase of the new residence) but my spouse has lived there for only three years. Can we qualify for the long-time resident homebuyer credit if we purchase a new principal residence?

A. No. Both spouses must have owned

continued above . . .

Homerbuyer credit ctd . . .

and used the same previous principal residence for five consecutive years out of the 8-year period ending on the date of purchase of the new principal residence to qualify for the credit. (12/14/09)

Q. I am a long-time resident and current homeowner and my spouse is a first-time homebuyer (has had no ownership interest in a principal residence during the three-year period ending on the date of purchase of a new principal residence) and we purchased a new principal residence. Can we qualify for either the first-time homebuyer credit or the long-time resident homebuyer credit if we purchase a new principal residence?

A. No. Both you and your spouse must be first-time homebuyers in order to qualify for the first-time homebuyer tax credit. Since you had an ownership interest in a principal residence during the three-year period ending on the date of purchase, neither you nor your spouse qualifies for the credit. Similarly, both you and your spouse must be long-time homeowners of the same previous principal residence in order to qualify for the long-time resident homebuyer credit. Since your spouse is not a long-time homeowner of your current principal residence, neither of you qualify for the credit. (12/14/09)

Q. I am a long-time homeowner of a principal residence and my spouse is a long-time homeowner of a different principal residence. Can we qualify for the long-time resident homebuyer credit if we purchase a new principal residence?

A. No. Both spouses must have owned and used the same previous principal residence for five consecutive years out of the eight-year period ending on the date of purchase of the new principal residence to be eligible for the credit. Since you and your spouse owned and used different principal residences, neither of you qualify. (12/14/09)

(Disclaimer-The above cases are an excerpt from an IRS statement upgraded on 1/10/10 for general information only. Before making any decision regarding homebuyer credit, you should consult with a qualified advisor. Rodney Saito is a Certified Public Accountant with Freitas & Saito, LLP and he can be reached at 5640110 or at rodney.saito@fscpas.biz.)