## PASTOR'S CORNER

## FAIRFIELD CIRCUIT CHARGE / MONTICELLO & BETHEL UMC

## **COOL UNDER PRESSURE**

I just finished watching a sports documentary on former San Francisco 49ers Quarterback Joe Montana. When I saw that this was coming out, I had my mind programmed on when the new episodes would be coming out. I was a big Montana fan growing up as a kid in the late 80's/early 90's. I even had a Montana jersey and a 49ers helmet, and I'd throw the football around like I was him hitting Jerry Rice for the gamewinning touchdown.

The documentary talked about how Joe was cool under pressure, either in a situation during a game or coming back from injury. He never let a moment get the best of him. It started as a young kid, then being 6<sup>th</sup> string at Notre Dame, all the Superbowl moments, and getting traded from the 49ers to the Chiefs in 1993. So I thought about how we get in those high-pressured moments. **Do we rise to the occasion or falter?** 

This is where Scripture comes into play because it helps us cultivate a spiritual skill that enables us to be prepared and decide responsibly. Sure, we have times of stress, worry, anger, and fear, but Scripture makes us wiser and teaches us how to deal with any situation.

Another avenue is prayer. We need prayer. We pray because it's like supplying our need for God. Prayer is a tool that connects us with God and knows that we can trust God for the answer when we pray.

Romans 8:28 tells us, "We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose." Pressure brings you and I closer to God so we can turn it into a spiritual power unlike ever before. There's no doubt that we will have pressure-filled moments just like Montana in Superbowl XXIII versus Cincinnati, but God is with us at any moment. **All we must do is let God in!** 

Love In Christ, +Pastor Ben