

The Exchanger

Volume 03, Issue 6

June, 2003

THE NEWSLETTER
OF
FELLOWSHIP
BIBLE CHURCH
WHITE ROCK

The Mission of
FBCWR:
*Connecting People
to God's Life-
Changing Power*

*We've Got
Connections!*

**But in all these
things we
overwhelmingly
conquer through
Him who loved us.**

Romans 8:37

INSIDE

Center Point	1
What's News at F.B.C.W.R.	2
Calendar	3
Ministry Spotlight	4

Center Point

There he is again with that same look on his face. It's the valet guy at the chemo center. The first day he helped me out of the car he said "Wow, this is really cramping your style". I assumed he was thinking I am young and active and full of plans and this was the last place I wanted to be. He was right. Last week he tells me, "Now go up there and tell those doctors and nurses that you have more important things to be doing." I know he feels for me yet he continually raises the question that I cannot shake. Why?

Things I loved and enjoyed have been tabled. I've missed many events and moments with my kids. No playing basketball, fishing, barbecuing, no Bible studies with my high school Ironman group. No preaching or singing on Sunday mornings. This is all very hard for me. I guess I found so much purpose and refreshment in these things.

On the other hand I see some wonderful blessings in the midst. My relationship with my wife Terri is better than ever. We have grown close and knitted together while seeking hope and encouragement from God and each other. I have renewed old acquaintances and been brought to tears by encouragement and prayers from great friends and even from total strangers.

The Center of His Will

But ultimately I don't evaluate this season in my life by comparing gains and losses. The foundation remains that God has me in this spot for His purpose. When I gave Him my life some 22 years ago, I meant it. "Do with me what you will God. I trust you will not give me more than I can handle with your strength". I take great delight in this alone—I am smack dab in the center of His will. Clar-

ity will come later. Lights will turn on and all will make perfect sense.

Wiggling Away from Center

There is an overarching passion in the human heart—we prefer things easy and comfortable. Yet we are continually handcuffed, criss-crossed and disappointed by the realities of life. Jesus appeared to Saul who would become Paul the apostle and told him to "quit kicking against the goads". The expression comes from a horse which kicks back against it's masters attempts to steer him. God wanted Paul to settle into His plan for his life.

It is easy to kick against the goads. Maybe your marriage is not what you want it to be. The boss undervalues and underpays you. You see character flaws in your children that deeply concern you. You feel your life is slipping by and you haven't even come close to meeting your potential. So we choose depression, frustration, fussing and complaining. We fight and quarrel and manipulate to try to smooth our path. Or we may just kind of check out and go through the motions.

Aim for the Center

That is no way for God's children to live. We are more than conquerors. We are His pride and joy and He gives everything we need to not only survive but to thrive in any situation. The center of God's will is crowded with troubles. Don't deny them or ignore them but most of all don't focus on them. Turn your eyes to the One who overcomes trouble and let Him lift your spirits and give you joy in the storms and wisdom to handle the struggles. What more important thing could we be doing?

-Joe Fornear