

The Exchanger

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THE EXCHANGER IS
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The Mission of
FBCWR:

*Connecting People to
God's Life-Changing
Power*

*We've Got
Connections!*

*Devote yourselves to
prayer, being watchful
and thankful.*

Colossians 4:2

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The Ultimate Contact Sport

Acts 26:18— (God is sending Paul) to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me.'

I tell my kids, "There are two types of people in the world. Those who learn from the mistakes of others and those who learn the hard way. I was the type who learned the hard way, don't be like me". Out of this realization I became a pastor to lead people in the right direction - towards "life" - what Jesus called the abundant life. During my high school years I was anything but a good influence on others. But since I met Jesus Christ, I have had a great passion to rescue people, young and old, from the lies of Satan. Jesus said Satan only robs and steals as he inflicts pain on the unsuspecting. We are told Satan masquerades as an angel of light—offering harmless fun while seeking to swallow men whole. He is said to be like a ravenous lion tracking distracted prey.

God told the apostle Paul that his purpose would be to lead people from Satan's dominion into a new realm—not just of forgiveness for their sins but also into an inheritance of spiritual riches for this life and the next. The invitation to serve Him in this manner has been extended through time to all church leaders and all churches for all time. This is the continued call I hear for myself and our church today. Are you with me in this? What is your purpose in life? What makes you tick, cranks your chain, bounces you out of bed in the morning? I hope your goal is not acquiring more money, better possessions, enhanced status or petty, fleeting pleasures for yourself, or vicariously, for your children. What a waste when you consider the grand scheme of things. Let's not be among those who learn that lesson the hard way.

Now among those who have embraced God's purpose for them in the church, there are also two types of people. The first are those who think they can waltz into Satan's domain of darkness and snag those caught in darkness and escort them out without a fight. The others realize the immensity of this invisible struggle and wage war in the Holy Spirit with divinely provided weapons. This is definitely a contact sport. But 2 Corinthians 10:4 has the solution, "For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses." Right at the top of the list of these weapons is prayer—the hand to hand combat of life in the Spirit. Even Jesus Himself was compelled to spend long hours in prayer to connect with His Father to obtain power, wisdom and refreshment. How much more should we flawed humans tap into prayer? This is why our church has these all day prayer chains that we call "24 Hours of Power". There are two types of people, those who sign up and those who miss a major opportunity. Join with us Saturday, February 10. Know anyone who needs a domain change?



-Joe Fornear