

## Jonathan Lawrence

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**From:** Covenant Business Network [mike@mikeleonardagency.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2011 6:40 AM  
**To:** jonathan@lawrencemediagroup.com  
**Subject:** What's New at the Covenant Business Network

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# Covenant Business Network




April 25, 2011

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**Byron Hatten**  
Clear Connection  
Communications - LLC

## Blessing Those Who Curse You

TGIF Today God Is First  
Volume 1 by Os Hillman

..."Leave him alone; let him curse, for the Lord has told him to. It may be that the Lord will see my distress and repay me with good for the cursing I am receiving today."

- Samuel 16:11-12



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Byron says that the business advice he would give to anyone who is self employed is to be dedicated to the work you do, take pride in your work and be committed to customer satisfaction. His favorite scripture is from Mark 11:24 "Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them and you will have them".

Byron and spouse, Cynthia are proud parents of five children, April, Raamiah, Raven, Ryane and Rylie. His favorite pastime is spending time with his family, attending his kids sporting events, going to car shows and drag racing events, as well as watching sports. He would like to take his family on a Caribbean cruise. He and his family attend Covenant Church in Carrollton.

### Message from Mike

This last week has been rather hectic and even to some point difficult due to the weather claims that we have had, but in all the busyness of business, God shared with me a spiritual application for what we are doing. As I have pointed out many times to those of you that have attended the meetings that relationships have to be established in order for business to be

As David's enemies were increasing and he was fleeing the city from his son Absalom who was seeking to take his throne, a man named Shimei began heaving rocks and cursing him as he passed by. Cursing the king was against the law, so David had every right to cut off the man's head -- as his generals were encouraging him to do. Here we see the difference between Saul and David in their response to those who would seek to do them harm. This is the defining difference between a leader who seeks to lead through a vertical dimension with God versus a horizontal fix-it mode. God knew David as a man after His own heart. Yet, David was a murderer, adulterer, and had failed in many areas of his life. But one thing separated this leader from all the rest: He had a heart that sought to please God and be in His will. When David blew it, he repented.

What is the purpose God desires to accomplish with the estranged relationship you may have with someone? Has He brought this affront to find out what is in your heart today? Will you seek revenge and solve the problem yourself? Or will you find the grace to allow God to carry out vengeance in His time if it is needed? When I learned this lesson to stay vertical with God and avoid the trap of fixing things in my own energies, it was a day of freedom. No longer was it my problem. We must examine our own heart in these matters. But if we are clean, then this affront is for character building. It is the only way God builds the deepest level of character in His saints.

A.W. Tozer tells us, "It is doubtful whether God can bless a man greatly until he has hurt him deeply." God actually rises up storms of conflict in

referred and transacted. The hail and wind that hit our area during the month of April has caused me to be able to send out numerous referrals to different people in the group, some to people that I haven't been fortunate to send referrals to before but now I have that opportunity. All of these individuals had taken the time to get to know me, had been faithful to attend the meeting and some even have an ad on the group website. After the storm hits you can't build relationships fast enough to catch business referrals from this storm and you lose what should have been a profitable opportunity. This is truly an example of sowing and reaping in due season.

relationships at times in order to accomplish that deeper work in our character. We cannot love our enemies in our own strength. This is graduate-level grace. Are you willing to enter this school? Are you willing to take the test? If you pass, you can expect to be elevated to a new level in the Kingdom. For He brings us through these tests as preparation for greater use in the Kingdom. You must pass the test first.

### Meeting Times & Locations

#### **Carrollton**

3rd Wednesdays | Nico's Cocina  
11:30 am - 1:00 pm

#### **McKinney**

2nd Wednesday | La Madeleine  
Restaurant | 11:30 am - 1:00 pm

#### **Colleyville**

4th Wednesdays | Spring Creek  
Barbeque in Grapevine  
11:30 am - 1:00 pm

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