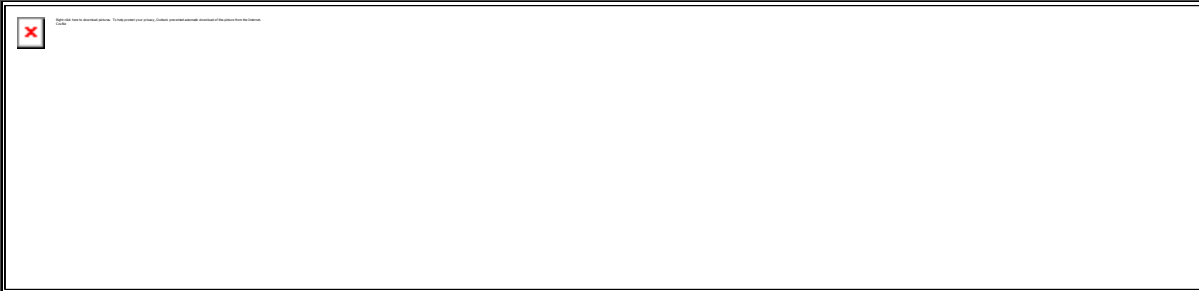


## Jonathan Lawrence

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**From:** Covenant Business Network [mike@mikeleonardagency.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 13, 2011 7:05 AM  
**To:** jonathan@lawrencemediagroup.com  
**Subject:** What's New at the Covenant Business Network

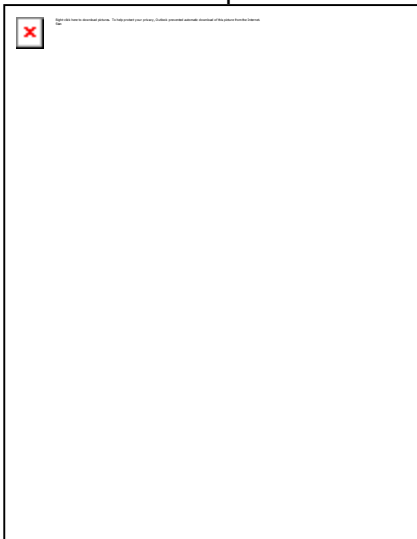
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June 13, 2011  
[www.covenantbiz.biz](http://www.covenantbiz.biz)  
We meet on the third Wednesday of each month  
at Nico's Cocina in Carrollton  
11:30 am to 1:00 pm

Do we have your current biography? Please click [here](#) to submit your biography online.

**Stan Sewell**  
The Nash Group Real Estate



Commercial Real Estate

**Testing for Obedience**  
TGIF Today God Is First  
Volume 2 by Os Hillman

"Test me, O LORD, and try me,  
examine my heart and my mind."  
- Psalms 26:2

Throughout the Old Testament, we see many situations in which God tests His people in order to determine if they will follow Him or follow the systems of this world.

The nation of Israel was tested many times during the 40-year sojourn in the wilderness: "Remember how the LORD your God led you all the way in

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Stan Sewell has been open for business with The Nash Group Real Estate, a commercial real estate company, for 18 years. Stan says that the keys to his success are to get up, get dressed, get to work. His favorite scripture is Joshua 24:15 "But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD." NIV

Stan and wife Carol have one daughter, Kelly. His hobbies include discovering new places, things and ideas. Activities of interest are politics, transportation, art glass and Oklahoma football. His favorite vacation would be California. The Sewells live in Plano and worship at Covenant Church in Carrollton.

Stan always says "when you think of me don't think about real estate but when you think about real estate think of me".

## **Mike's Corner**

### **"Prayer Works"**

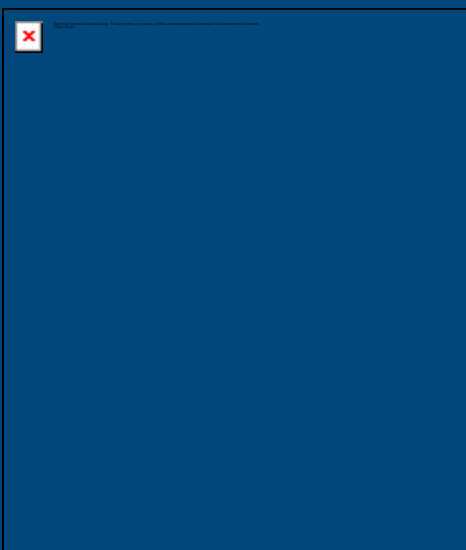
the desert these forty years, to humble you and to test you in order to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commands" (Deut. 8:2).

You might ask, "Why does God need to test us? Doesn't He know everything, including what we would do in every situation?" Yes, God knows - but we don't know ourselves! God doesn't test us in order to find out something He doesn't already know. He tests us so that we can learn about ourselves and His love, power and faithfulness.

In Genesis 22, God tested Abraham by commanding him to sacrifice his son Isaac on a mountain in the land of Moriah. Isaac was Abraham's only son by his wife Sarah - the son God had promised to Abraham. By demanding that Isaac be sacrificed, God seemed to be nullifying His covenant of making a great nation of Abraham. How could God's promise be fulfilled if Isaac was dead?

God tested Abraham to reveal whether or not Abraham truly trusted His promise. Yes, God knew what Abraham would do, but He wanted Abraham to know as well. So God put Abraham to the test, and Abraham passed. As Abraham raised the knife to sacrifice his own son, God stopped him and provided a sacrificial ram instead.

Every test involves obedience in one way or another. When God tests us, He reveals the true state of our hearts. Are we obedient to His will, or are we self-willed? We might think we know the answer, but we would never truly know unless we were tested.



"Dear Lord: Thank you for bringing me to Timmy's house

.....and not to Michael Vick's- AMEN!"

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