

June 2-3 2018
CALLED OUT: A SWOT ANALYSIS OF THE CHURCH
“Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats”
A Stunning Lesson for the Church
Acts 3:11-16

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1. It's _____ about _____.

- God uses our _____ for service, but the _____ belongs to _____.

2. It's _____ about _____.

- Our worship must be _____.
- We must move from an emphasis on _____ to an emphasis on _____.
- We must _____ Him. He is the _____ One.
 - _____ of Nazareth.
 - God's _____.
 - The _____ and _____ One.
 - The _____ of Life
 - The _____ foretold by Moses.
 - The _____.

3. We must _____ and _____ to God.

- Sins are _____ out.
- _____ and _____ comes from God.
- Universal _____ takes place.
- **Romans 8:22-23** *We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies.*

While I have been preaching about "A SWOT Analysis of the Church," I have not been looking at specific needs of our church. For that reason, Wednesday night at our Congregational meeting, I tried to look at specific "Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats."

I want to thank all of you who attended and participated. Here are the highlights of that conversation.

Strengths of First Baptist Church:

We are as well unified as any time in my 29-year tenure at FBC. The New Testament deals repeatedly with church unity. Obviously, it really matters. Our unity is a major strength.

Our new facilities are a major blessing for the church. Rarely do you dream and plan and see your dreams exceeded, but that is exactly what happened with us.

We are blessed to have wonderful new worship leaders in Benji and Jenna Cowart and David Logan.

The month of May is a good time to compare attendance between this year and last year. In May 2017 we averaged 1938 in total attendance. This year we averaged 2308 for an increase of 370.

Weaknesses of FBC:

All our weaknesses relate to missed opportunities to grow in Christ and become like Him. Many people do not participate in a Connect Group or seek to grow through Equip.

Opportunities of FBC:

We live in a hungry, seeking community where people want to live. The fields are white unto harvest.

FBC has a good reputation in the community. We are emphasizing the Next Generation and other ethnic groups.

Threats of FBC:

Two areas stood out. First, with the Builder Generation moving off the scene, will the younger generation take up the charge to fund Christian ministry? Second, will we live lives of holiness that honor Christ or will we harm our witness?

Summary:

We have tremendous blessings, but with blessing comes responsibility. To whom much is given much is required.