



"Offering Hope, Healing & Wholeness to the Relationally and Sexually Wounded"

Christmas 2009

Dear Friends of Exchange,

As we prepare to celebrate Christmas, I am honored to reflect on the countless ways that the Lord has supported this ministry through each of you. Your faithful partnership in giving, praying, and offering wise counsel and encouragement over the years have blessed our ministry—and *me*—in so many ways. Especially with the economic uncertainty that has affected so many of us, I am reminded daily of your sacrificial giving. Thank you for your love and commitment to us!

In addition to financial concerns, this has also been a challenging year both in ministry and personally. When facing a continued season of struggle and hardship, it can seem like God is absent and uninterested in my problems or circumstances. However, when I take a step back and look at all that He has done for me over the past two decades, I am once again reminded that He has *never* left or forsaken me, even though I still expect eventual abandonment, due to my own brokenness and expectations.

I made the decision to begin seeing a counselor and have been amazed how much God has used that time to reveal deeper issues in my own life that still need to be addressed. The Lord lovingly reassures us in Phil 1:6 that "He who began a good work in [us] will continue it until the day of Jesus Christ" (when we meet Him face to face). On a long, uncertain journey, meditating on this promise offers us *hope*. The Lord Jesus has already done more for you and me than we will ever be able to comprehend on this side of Heaven, none of which we deserve. His grace is glorious!

During this CHRISTmas season let us reflect on His miraculous birth and the gift that this is to each of us—*Immanuel*, God with us. The eternal God *intensely longs* to live in communion with us, regardless of our past mistakes or current trials. Through Christ all of our iniquity has been cast into the depths of the sea (Micah 7:18-19). May we rejoice in this amazing reality, which the angels declared to the bewildered shepherds, "Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:11).

*Thank you* for partnering with us in your continued prayers and financial support. Though I am always challenged to ask for your financial support, I am reminded that we have the *privilege* of inviting others to participate in God's powerful work of changing lives for His glory. Your investment enables us to continue proclaiming God's truth in a world that no longer stands on or recognizes truth. This past year I have witnessed marriages saved, wives encouraged, and men commit to and persevere in areas of their life that they once thought impossible. With God *ALL THINGS* are possible. To Him be all the glory!

Ever grateful for your faithful partnership with us,

John J. Westcott  
Executive Director