

MAUPIN MESSAGE

God Is, Once Again, Doing a “New Thing”

How/Where to Give

At this time, our financial support flows through Global Service Network. This ministry outlet provides a 501c3 tax deductible outlet for our support team. As missionaries, we are fully dependent on God to provide for our living expenses through the support of others. By God's grace, we are building our support team and we are so thankful for the process of discovering people God has chosen to join us on this journey. Thank you for your partnership in prayer and giving. To give at this time, visit globalservicenetwork.org and click on the Give tab, search for my name, Rick Maupin, and you can set up your giving (monthly, annually, single gift). When the move to Fellowship of Christian Athletes happens, I'll provide information and FCA will be the outlet. I am excited to get to serve with FCA and make a difference among high school and college coaches and athletes. Susie and I have been a part of high school and college sports since we arrived in Little Rock in 2000. To God be the glory.



Once you consider that God's sovereignty is unassailable and yet difficult to understand in the context of man's free will, you get to the point of our salvation being granted solely by grace through faith. The Gospel, the story of Jesus' life, death and resurrection, delivers salvation to all who believe—salvation found in Christ alone. We get to walk by faith in that Truth and allow our works to reflect our faith as we travel along the Sanctification Highway. Scripture says access to this “highway” is through the “narrow gate.” This is also described in a great book that I've just finished, “The Calvary Road,” by Roy Hession and Revel Hession.

I was assigned this book as required reading to complete “Tryout Training” with Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA). The story behind this opportunity is something only God could develop. I'm trying to grasp the meaning behind God's circuitous route to revealing His plan and my new calling. Earlier, I sent out via email and posted on our Maupin Family Ministry Prayer and Support Facebook group page, the following Maupin Ministry Update:

[Thank you for walking with Susie and I as we navigate this current spiritual journey God has presented/allowed. It is because of your faithfulness to pray for us and to give to us a](#)



Who is FCA?

Fellowship of Christian Athletes exists to share the Gospel by ministering to and through coaches and athletes. Disciples making disciples. FCA is Gospel centered and biblically based. The Mission (To lead every coach and athlete into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ and His church); Vision (To see the world transformed by Jesus Christ through the influence of coaches and athletes); and Values (Our relationships will demonstrate steadfast commitment to Jesus Christ and His Word through Integrity, Serving, Teamwork and Excellence) align with ours and it is exciting for me to get to serve with FCA. FCA was founded in 1954 on the University of Oklahoma campus by basketball coach, Don McClanan, who partnered with Brooklyn Dodger's Branch Rickey to launch a movement of Christian athletes using their platforms for proclaiming Christ. The premise back then was, if athletes can use their platform to sell cigarettes and cars, why not use it to proclaim Christ?

portion of what God gives to you that the ministry opportunities we pursue can be realized.

Since June, God has opened a couple of doors for ministry that I (Rick) have been exploring. After talking with ministry leaders at 5 churches, it is clear that inspiration, equipping and winsome invitations to the men of The Church to act like godly men are all in great need. I recently sat across the table from a Men's Ministry pastor at a local Little Rock church and he jotted down a couple of pages of notes and we both came away blessed by our meeting. I was blessed to know that I could be used by God to inspire and equip him and he said he was blessed to have someone with my experience and passion with whom to share his goals and to bounce off ideas for best next steps going forward. That's a win-win to me.

Last week also included a meeting with a former FamilyLife colleague who invited me to consider another outlet for my passion for the Gospel to transform men. He serves with Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA). That turned out to be a meeting with some deep meaning and amazing coincidences. As I shared with Susie some details about my meeting, it was discovered that the local FCA director knows our football coach son, Brian, and participated in a discipling program with Susie! A meeting at the local FCA office with the director and other FCA staff put a very interesting consideration before me. I was offered the opportunity to serve with FCA and reach the coaching community (high school and college) with the concept of disciples making disciples so that the youth can be reached for Christ before they graduate. Having the coaches as gatekeepers for the students, I would minister to them and assist them in ministering to their student athletes who would, ideally, reach their schools for Christ. How's that for vital kingdom work? I have just finished the onboarding process and I've been accepted on staff with FCA!

Please pray for wisdom as I take each next step, that I would be led by the Holy Spirit and would not lean on my own understanding. Things have moved in unusual ways since June. We remain dependent on God to meet our needs, provide courage and wisdom and we are blessed you are with us. Here's the link to our giving site at Global Service Network: <https://globalservicenetwork.org/give/?framepath=%2F50620004%3Fframe%3Dtrue>

Please call or reply with any questions, comments, wisdom and prayer requests. Thank you for your faithful partnership.

Be of good cheer,
Rick and Susie