

## AN OPEN DOOR

Let us make today the day of our Open Door, the day you completely open up the door of your life to God.

### KEY POINTS

- ❖ Look around you. Think about where you live, or where you work. Have you ever taken notice of all the different types of doors that are around you?
- ❖ Every door is a decision, a choice, an opportunity. Open it, or not? Lock it and bar it, or not? Walk through that door, or not? Is this a door you can help someone else to walk through?
- ❖ Do you recognize the doors in your life when they show up? The outcomes of your life are hinged upon what you do with doors.
- ❖ Some of the hinges only work one way; once you walk through that door you're committed. Other doors have two-way hinges, you can easily reverse your decision. Some doors are only open at certain times.
- ❖ Is there an open door facing you in your life right now that's asking you to decide what you're going to do?
- ❖ God said He will set before you open doors (Revelation 3:8). Doesn't mean there won't be difficulties in walking through. God will bring you to the doorway of the promised land. Sometimes He'll even take the walls down. But you'll still have to fight to possess it.
- ❖ Sometimes the opposition you face will be exactly because you're claiming something that is from God, something that will benefit and grow God's Kingdom.
- ❖ A Jamaican proverb says, "What is fi-yuh cyaan be un-fi-yuh" (what's yours can't *not be* yours).
- ❖ Or can it? What if you never decide to walk through that door that God has put in front of you? What if you never push on it to see if it will open? Then what is for you is still for you, but you didn't go get it.
- ❖ What if you are facing more than one door? How do you know which door to choose? How do you get clear on what is God's will regarding your life, or at least your next few steps?
- ❖ It's time to seek God. It's time to Stop, Look, and Listen. **Stop** the constant torrent of your own thoughts. **Look** into the word of God (are there situations similar to yours?). **Listen** to the voice of God—in your own heart, in that place of quietness.
- ❖ Think about this: how has God made you? We are all fearfully and wonderfully made (Psalm 139:14), but we are each made differently.
- ❖ The paths God has taken you through, the experiences He has given you, and the things you have learned are not just by chance.
- ❖ Your life up to this point has been preparing you for what comes next. God prepares His vessels.
- ❖ Then there are the doors you do not want to go through. There's something you can know for sure—any door that requires you to do things that God's word stands against is not a door God opened for you.
- ❖ If a door requires you to do wrong, don't go through that door.

### KEY SCRIPTURE: John 11:38-44

- ❖ Remember 'Stop, Look and Listen'? Once you've quieted down your own thoughts, do you truly feel at peace in the presence of God when you pray about going through a particular door?
- ❖ The peace of God surpasses what we understand. If you can't feel that peace, don't go through that door.
- ❖ But, on the other hand, if a door that stands before you is right in line with the preparation God has given you in your life, then it's time to lace up those boots and get ready to rumble.
- ❖ Some doors should come with a warning. Why? Because some doors are distractions. Often, they show up just before you get to the door you're trying to reach, or right when you've finally started to walk through a door that you definitely know is God's will for you.
- ❖ If you're not careful, or if you're uncertain about where you're trying to go, they can cause a lot of confusion. Is that really the door you want to open?
- ❖ Don't let yourself be standing there bewildered, wondering what to do. You already know what to do. Keep your eyes on the prize, the prize of the high calling (Philippians 3:14).
- ❖ And now we get to the most important door. Have you ever thought you'd love to have an amazing, close relationship with God? If so, great. Because God has long ago opened that door. It's a simple looking door. It has a sign on it with some simple directions: "Draw near to Me and I will draw near to you" (James 4:8).
- ❖ As a matter of fact, Jesus turns the whole scene around, saying:  
Behold I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice, and opens the door, I will come in and dine with him, and he with me. (Rev. 3:20)
- ❖ He also says that He holds the key and that any door He unlocks, no one can lock. And any door He shuts, no one can open (Rev. 3:7-8).
- ❖ So, why not make today the day to fully open up the door of your life to God? Why not make today the day of your Open Door?

### DISCUSSION/REFLECTION TOOLS

1. Have you ever encountered a closed door? What was your reaction? What lesson did you learn and could there have been another way?
2. Have there been instances in your life where you knew God opened a door for you and made a way? Share your testimony.

### PRAYER TIME

Lord, help me to STOP, LOOK and LISTEN, so that I may hear Your voice though the noise and do what You will for my life. In Jesus' name, amen.

Start-up: Name one place where you wished you had a skeleton key that opened up every door. Why this place in particular?

## WEEK OF SUNDAY, APRIL 11, 2021

### NOTES

Meditate as you read through/listen to this week's message. If it helps, use symbols for your notes.

✓ (Reminds me/Confirms) 💡 (New idea) 🤔 (Think about)

! (Do this) ❤️ (Speaks to my heart) ↔ (Must share)

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### PRAYER NEEDS/THANKSGIVINGS

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Go deeper with your Life Group family.  
CONNECT-REFLECT-DISSECT THE  
WORD



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### TO SUBMIT A BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT

Obtain approval from Head of Department and send to [announcements@faithsanctuary.com](mailto:announcements@faithsanctuary.com) by Wednesday @ 4:00 p.m. (If projection is desired send to [media@faithsanctuary.com](mailto:media@faithsanctuary.com).)

### FAITH SANCTUARY DONATIONS

To donate online, please go to [www.faithsanctuary.com/give](http://www.faithsanctuary.com/give)  
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Beyond the open door is a new and fresh  
anointing

Hear the Spirit calling you to go  
Walk on through the door for the Lord will go  
before you

Into a greater power you've never known  
before



### FAITH SANCTUARY ON-LINE SERVICES

SUNDAY @ 10:15 a.m. – Sunday Bible Study  
SUNDAY @ 11:00 a.m. – Worship Service LIVE  
SUNDAY @ 3:00 and 8:00 p.m. – Worship Service  
Rebroadcast  
MONDAY @ 6:30 p.m. – Berean Bible Study on  
Zoom, Facebook, YouTube  
WEDNESDAY @ 7:00 p.m. – Worship Service  
Rebroadcast

## FAITH FOUNDATIONS

### GOD

We believe there is only one God: the eternal, holy, loving, all-knowing, all-powerful, omnipresent Spirit, creator of all (Deuteronomy 6:4; 1 Timothy 1:17; Leviticus 19:2; 1 John 4:8; Hebrews 4:13; Revelation 19:6; Jeremiah 23:24; John 4:24; Isaiah 44:24; Colossians 1:16).

### GOD'S WORD

We believe the Holy Scriptures—The Bible—is God's true and complete Word to humanity, verified most notably through fulfilled prophecies concerning Jesus Christ (2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Isaiah 41:21-23, 42:8-9, 46:9-10; Luke 24:25-27; John 17:17).

### GOD'S CREATION

We believe all people were created in the image of God for His pleasure, to be His children, His church and His bride, living in eternal love and fellowship with Him (Revelation 4:1; Genesis 1:27; John 1:12-13; Romans 8:16; Ephesians 5:25-32; Revelation 19:7).

### HUMANITY'S FALL

We acknowledge that we have all sinned and failed to fulfill God's plan and purpose for our lives, through willful disobedience to the word of God and our own conscience. All sinful acts lead to separation and alienation from God's pure, holy presence, eventually resulting in both physical and spiritual death (Romans 3:23, 6:23a).

### THE GOSPEL

We believe that Jesus Christ is the Almighty God, fully divine and fully human (1 Timothy 3:16). He came to Earth and suffered death by crucifixion, willingly substituting Himself for us in receiving God's judgment against sin (Isaiah 53:5). But God raised Him from death (Acts 5:30), and He now offers eternal life to all who will believe in Him (John 3:14-17, 6:29; 2 Corinthians 5:18-21; Romans 6:23b; Ephesians 2:4-9). Faith is sparked within us when we hear the gospel, the "good news" that Jesus died, was buried and rose from the dead for our benefit (Romans 10:14-17; 1 Corinthians 15:1-4).

### OUR FAITH RESPONSE

Hearing the gospel is intended to lead us to repentance, a divinely inspired change of heart that causes us to turn away from our sins and turn to God (2 Corinthians 7:9-10; 2 Timothy 2:24-26). Faith and repentance lead us to obey the scriptural command to be baptized in Jesus' name for the forgiveness of our sins and to receive His gift of the Holy Spirit. His Spirit gives us the power to live a righteous, godly life, joyfully sharing the good news of our new life in Christ with others (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38, 4:12; 1 Peter 1:22-23).

### CHRIST'S RETURN

We believe our Lord Jesus Christ will soon return to Earth to receive His people to Himself and establish His righteous, eternal kingdom (John 14:3; Matthew 25:34).

APRIL 11, 2021

  
S A N C T U A R Y  
Know Jesus, Love Jesus, Share Jesus

2021 ~ Live It! ~ 2021

Pastor: Rev. Granville E. McKenzie

*"Behold I stand at the door  
and knock. If anyone hears my  
voice, and opens the door, I  
will come in and dine with  
him, and he with me."*

Revelation 3:20

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