



**METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH**

MINISTRY OF BIBLICAL STUDIES Handout

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**January 10, 2024**

**I know your  
deeds. See, I have  
placed before you  
an open door that  
no one can shut. I  
know that you  
have little  
strength, yet you  
have kept my  
word and have not  
denied my name.**

Revelation 3:8



# Welcome to the Metropolitan Community Church Ministry of Biblical Study Classes

January 10, 2024

## "What Doors Is God Opening in Your Life?"

*1 Corinthians 16:9*

*"...because a great door for effective work has opened to me, and there are many who oppose me."*

When the door is open, we can be effective and in communication with God and those around us, but to close the door means to cut off that communication.

Consider this when you are evaluating the source of your open door. If it is from God, communication will be enhanced. If from Satan, communication will be thwarted.

Have you ever wondered what the Bible says about open doors?

While there are many verses in the Bible about open doors, as mentioned above, I want to highlight a few that can help shed some light on what God says about open doors.

In Revelation 3:8, we read

"I know your deeds. See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut. I know that you have little strength, yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name."

We know that this is from one of the letters to the seven churches found in the second and third chapters of Revelation, specifically, the church of Philadelphia.

In these letters, the John, through the Lord's prompting, directly addressed the spiritual conditions of these churches. In this letter, He is pleased that they have been obedient to His word despite increasing pressures from the pagan Roman world.

He has given them the promise of an open door of opportunity to advance His kingdom

The verse does not offer them a promise of an open door in regards to a better place to live, more riches or anything else of a material nature. He is promising them an open door as an opportunity to serve Him.

Would God be pleased by your obedience against the pressures of the world? Would He open doors for you about serving him?

What would this look like?

Are you feeling a nudging to serve the homeless?

Do you keep seeing a request for volunteers for Sunday school?

What doors is God opening for you so that you can serve Him?

When researching open doors in the Bible, I came across Acts 16:26.

In it, we read that there was a sudden violent earthquake. So strong that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everyone's chains came loose."

I absolutely love this verse and the picture in my mind of the situation surrounding it.

It is important to note that the earthquake was not of natural causes or the ground swelling. Instead, it was from the prayers and praises of the saints going toward heaven!

Prayers of the faithful shook the foundation and opened the doors and, get this, “everyone’s chains came loose” Hallelujah! They were free!

I love the picture here. Through prayer and praise, their chains came loose. No matter what is binding you – addiction, depression, debt, and your chains can come loose through prayer and praise!

Most of the time, we want God to open doors for us. However, God wants us to open doors for Him, too.

In Revelation 3:20, we see “Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me.”

## **God is knocking.**

He is waiting for us to open the door for Him.

Are you letting God in when He is knocking?

Perhaps you have already given your heart to Jesus, but maybe you have only opened the door with the security latch still secure.

On the other hand, maybe you are peeking out the peephole. Where are you holding back?

What are you not giving to God?

What doors have you not yet opened for him?

I encourage you to pray about the closed doors in your life this week. Ask God what doors He can open for you. Ask Him what chains he can loosen for you?

**Perhaps you already know, but just need to give them over to Him. After all, He IS the God of open doors.**

