

Walking Through the Door of

# FAITH

Ministry of Biblical  
Studies

OCTOBER BIBLE STUDY SERIES

**"Doors of Opportunity to Serve"**

**October 16, 2024**

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[MCC1920.org](http://MCC1920.org)

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**Welcome to the Metropolitan Community Church**  
**Ministry of Biblical Study Classes**  
October 16, 2024

**“Doors of Opportunity to Serve”**  
11:00am - 11:45am

**Key Scripture**

**1 Corinthians 16:9** – “For a great door for effective work has opened to me, and there are many adversaries.”

**Introduction**

The Apostle Paul recognized that God had opened a significant door for ministry in Ephesus. Through this door, Paul saw an opportunity to serve both the church and the broader community, despite facing challenges. In the same way, God places opportunities before us today to serve others through ministry and outreach.

**Reflection on 1 Corinthians 16:1-9**

Paul’s letter to the Corinthian church in this passage encourages organized giving for the needs of others, underscores the importance of planning and teamwork in ministry, and highlights the open doors God provides for service. Paul reminds the church of the ongoing needs in other parts of the body and the opportunity for them to be involved.

**Key Themes**

**1. Service as an Act of Love and Obedience**

- Paul’s instruction to the church in Corinth emphasizes giving as a form of love and support for others. This reminds us that our service to others flows from our love for God and our obedience to His commands.

**Reflection:** How is God calling you to love and serve others in your community?

**Scripture Reference:**

- **Galatians 5:13** – “Serve one another humbly in love.”

## **2. Planned and Purposeful Giving**

- Paul instructs the Corinthians to set aside resources regularly to support the needs of others. This reveals that effective service often requires thoughtful planning and intentionality.

**Reflection:** How can you be more intentional about planning your time, talents, or resources to serve others?

**Scripture Reference:**

- **2 Corinthians 9:7** – “Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”

## **3. Seizing Opportunities Despite Opposition**

- Paul acknowledges that although a great door for ministry is open, there are adversaries. Similarly, when God opens doors for us to serve, we may face challenges or obstacles, but we are called to move forward in faith.

**Reflection:** What challenges have you faced in serving others, and how has God helped you overcome them?

**Scripture Reference:**

- **Philippians 4:13** – “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”

## **4. Ministry and Outreach as a Community Effort**

- Paul mentions various individuals and encourages the Corinthians to collaborate with others in ministry. Serving is not a solo effort; it requires teamwork and partnership.

**Reflection:** How can you collaborate with others in your church or community to maximize the impact of your service?

**Scripture Reference:**

- **1 Peter 4:10** – “Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.”

**Discussion Questions**

1. What doors of opportunity has God opened for you recently to serve your neighbors or community?
2. How can you better prepare yourself to recognize and walk through those doors, even when challenges arise?
3. How can our church community become more proactive in identifying and stepping into opportunities for outreach?

**Application and Action Steps**

1. Pray for Discernment: Ask God to reveal specific areas where He is opening doors for you to serve.
2. Commit to a Service Project: Identify one way you can serve your church, neighborhood, or a local outreach ministry.
3. Invite Others to Join You: Partner with fellow church members to multiply your efforts and build community through serving.

**Memory Verse**

- **1 Peter 4:10** – “Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.”

**Closing Prayer:**

Pray for God’s guidance and strength as you step through the doors of opportunity to serve others, asking for wisdom in overcoming challenges and faithfulness in using your gifts for the benefit of the community.

