

Activate the Open Door

Zoe Christian Fellowship of Whittier

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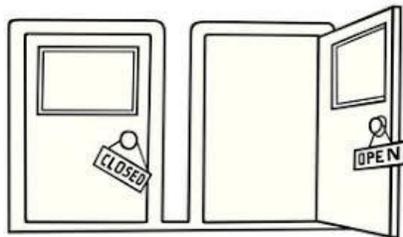
Objective: Gain strategies on how to activate and access the open door that God has designed specifically for you. The open door may come in the form of a breakthrough, answered prayer, opportunity, supernatural healing and so much more.

Key Scriptures:

Revelations 3:7 NIV - To the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: These are the words of him who is holy and true, who holds the key of David. What he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open.

John 10:9 ESV - I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture.

The door only swings two ways...which will it be for you?



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Week 1: Hindrances to the Open Door

- Are you positioning yourself to receive from God?
- Are you experiencing delays or setbacks?
- Is the door opening?

Harboring unforgiveness –

Colossians 3:13 (NIV) is clear. “Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you”.

- We must get to the “heart” of the matter
- Ask God for help in this area – we are not built to carry the weight on our own
- Cast all your cares on Him, because He cares for you, 1 Peter 5:7 (Meditate on this)
- It is not only important to deal with unforgiveness toward others, but it is as equally important to forgive ourselves – *Let’s not revisit what we can’t revise!*
- Search your heart and remove anything that’s not aligned with the heavenly Father

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****Life Group Pause:** Take a moment to pray and search your hearts and ask God to remove any unforgiveness you may be harboring – release it and give it to God.

Lack of faith –

- Are you pleasing the one who holds the power to open the door?
- Is your faith producing results?
- Have you been rewarded lately?

“And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him”, Hebrews 11:6 NIV.

- This verse contains a significant word and that’s “impossible”.
 - The word impossible is defined as “unable to be done, performed or effected”
- The “reward” of the open door will not and cannot be activated without faith.
- Faith is NECESSARY and literally moves God into action!

Wrong inner circle –

- What company are you keeping?
- What are others speaking into your life?

It matters who we’re connected to!

Jesus had a total of 12 disciples; however, he was very particular about who he kept close within his inner circle.

Take a moment to read Matthew 17:1-9. Jesus made a conscious decision to only take Peter, James and John to the mountain of transfiguration.

Negative Words –

- What words are coming out of your mouth?
- Are you speaking life or death over your circumstances?
- What are you allowing to enter into your gates (eyes, ears, mouth)?

Psalm 141:3 states very clearly that we are to set a guard over our mouths.

“You have been trapped by what you said, ensnared by the words of your mouth”, Proverbs 6:2 NIV

“The tongue has the power of life and death and those who love it will eat its fruit”, Proverbs 18:21NIV

- Our words have absolute power to block the activation of the open door.
- Negative speaking = Closed door!

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****Life Group Pause:** Begin to pray and release words of life over yourselves, your family and your circumstances.

Week 2: Strategies for Activating the Open Door

- How are you managing your time?
- Have you added God to your calendar/schedule?
- Has God been an after-thought?

There is one main strategy that should be highlighted, and if we are diligent in following these set of instructions, it will surely activate the open door.

“But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well”, Matthew 6:33 NIV.

- It is vitally important that we follow the instructions, in the order, in which God has commanded.
- God has instructed us to seek Him FIRST.
- Seeking God first, at the start of our day, is comparable to giving him the first fruit of our day, i.e., the tithe of our day.
 - What will you do with your tithe?
- God graces us with the gift of time, yet He only asks for the first part of it.

Week 3: Our Helper

- Are you utilizing the gift God has given us?
- Are you tapping into the secret place?

For those of us who are becoming weary and wondering whether the door will open, we have someone to call on – The Holy Spirit!

- John 14:26- The Holy Spirit is our helper.
- II Corinthians 1:3-4 – The Holy Spirit is our comforter.
- James 3:13-18 – The Holy Spirit gives us wisdom and discernment

We need the Holy Spirit’s help to recognize when the door is opening. We also need to know whether it is the right door.

****Life Group Pause:** Begin to pray in the Holy Spirit for edification, comfort, help, wisdom, and discernment.

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Additional scriptures to read and meditate on, as it relates to the Holy Spirit:

Romans 8:26 - Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

Ephesians 6:18 - Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

Jude 1:20 - But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,

Romans 8:26-27 - Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

1 Corinthians 14:15 - What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also.

1 Corinthians 14:14 - For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful.

John 4:24 - God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

Romans 8:27 - And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

Week 4: Move with intentionality

- What do you want to see manifest in your life?
- Are you ready to experience God's best?

Go into action and do the work!

Here's another set of instructions from our Heavenly Father and it's found in Habakkuk 2:2

- Habakkuk 2:2 NIV – Then the LORD replied: "Write down the revelation and make it plain on tablets so that a herald may run with it.

Speak into existence, the open door you desire to see!

- Proverbs 18:21 - The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit.
- Speak Life!

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Walk like it's yours!

James 2:26 NIV - As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead

Remain in a position of gratefulness and thanksgiving!

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 NIV - Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus

Keep praise and worship at the forefront on your mind!

Isaiah 9:6 NIV - I praise you, God, my “Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

Expect the manifestation!

Ephesians 3:20 NIV - Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us.

We've come full circle in our lesson and now we're ready to see the manifestation, i.e., THE OPEN DOOR!!!

Revelation 3:8 – 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.