

A Wide Open Door

Introduction:

Christ says that the opportunity to do his work in the world is an open door which no one shut, but the question is, what is required of those who would walk through God's open door and join His disciple-making mission? (Revelation 3:7,8)

1) Walking through the open door of ministry requires accepting the mission.

Matthew 28:18-20

...while you are going, you should be making disciples.

...Mission statement for Body of Christ. The mission of Christ is not an optional mission...but we need to choose to participate.

2 Corinthians 5:18-20 Ministry of Reconciliation

2) Walking through the open door of ministry requires confidence in the effectiveness of the mission.

Lo, do you see this truth; I am always with you...(v. 20)

Lo, you need to see this truth...(v. 20)

...we are not alone when we are working for the Lord - He is there. (James 1:5-8)

Those who don't believe in the effectiveness of the mission, don't try to accomplish the mission. Instead they make excuses.

...that won't work, we can't do that, and no one will listen

Sunday Sermon Outline

...if you would walk through the door of disciple-making, you must "see" that Christ is with you.

3) Walking through the open door of ministry requires the adaptation of life and ministry.

1 Corinthians 9:19-26

How flexible are we to advance the Gospel of Christ?

Matthew 10:38-39

Cultural adaptation requires personal sacrifice, which is one of the indicators of being a true Christ-follower.

4) Walking through the open door of ministry means doing what you can, where you are.

Acts 9:17-20

None of us are called to do what Paul did, BUT we are all call to do what you can, where you are. (Ephesians 4:11-16)

If you want to participate in God's Great Commission to reach the world, will you walk through the open door of ministry?

For Application:

Meditate on 2 Corinthians 5:16-21, memorize v. 18.

Evaluate: how consistently are you walking through the open door of ministry? Which of today's key thoughts do you need to live out more in order to me more responsive to God's open door of ministry?

Consecrate: prayerfully commit yourself to obey God's prompting and seek His help in your plan to grow.