

Philadelphia (Background)

- 1. Jesus is **HOLY** and **TRUE**. (*Mark 1:24; Revelation 6:10, 19:11; 1 John 5:20; Hebrews 4:15; 1 Peter 1:19; Exodus 15:11; 1 Samuel 2:2; Isaiah 6:3; John 3:33, 17:3*)
- 2. God's will can never be successfully **<u>THWARTED</u>**! (*Revelation 1:18; Isaiah 22; Isaiah 9:6, 14:27, 55:10-11; Matthew 16:19; Proverbs 21:20; Job 42:2; Hebrews 13:8*)

## The COMMENDATION

- Not abandoning God's <u>WORD</u> and not <u>DENYING</u> His name is commendable! (Deuteronomy 10:20, 11:1, 13:4; Psalm 63:8; Psalm 119:11-16; 2 Peter 2:1; Mark 8:38; Romans 1:16; Titus 1:16; John 15:14)
- 4. Strength is **NOT** in strength, and strength is **NOT** in numbers! (*Jeremiah* 9:23-24, 17:5; *Philippians* 3:13, 4:13; *Proverbs* 3:5-6, 14:12, 28:26; *Psalm* 37:5, 46:1-3; *Judges* 7; *Isaiah* 41:10; *Ephesians* 6:10; *Zechariah* 4:6; Acts 4:13; *Luke* 6:10-12; 2 *Corinthians* 12:9)
- 5. Being obedient to **PERSEVERE** is commendable! (James 1:12; Galatians 6:9; Romans 5:3-5, 12:12; Hebrews 12:1; 2 Thessalonians 3:13)

## The CENSURE (None.)

## The CHALLENGE

Hold fast to what you have been given: a DOOR of opportunity, your TRUST in God, and your FAITHFULNESS to Him alone! (Hebrews 3:6, 10:23; 1 Thessalonians 5:21; Galatians 6:10; Colossians 4:5; Ephesians 5:16; Psalm 62:5-7; Acts 14:27)

The CONSEQUENCE

- 7. The overcomer will have supernatural **PROTECTION**. (2 Peter 2:7-9; Isaiah 41:10; 2 Thessalonians 3:3; Psalm 5:11, 138:7)
- 8. The overcomer will have endless **STABILITY**, a forever **HOME**, and a clear **NAME** that indicates we belong to Jesus! (*Revelation 2:17, 13:16-17; Isaiah 56:5, 62:2; Psalm 100:3; Romans 14:8; 1 Corinthians 6:19; 2 Corinthians 1:21-22*)



## Taking it further to help you THRIVE...

THRIVE Groups are where life and growth take place. We don't want to just say *"See you next week"* as we leave each Sunday - we want to connect! For more info on joining a THRIVE Group, visit <u>thrivekg.org/thrive-groups.</u>

- 1. Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
- 2. Share a time when you felt weak / powerless, yet God empowered you to keep going and carry on.
- 3. What should our response be to Jesus the One who is "holy and true" (verse 7)?
- 4. What unique door of opportunity did Philadelphia have because of its location? What unique door(s) of opportunity do we have as a local church in King George, VA? If God has opened a door, what should we do? What can we do to make sure we continue to persevere and seek to please Him?
- 5. We often hear that strength is in size or in numbers, but this was *not true* with the Church of Philadelphia (see verse 8 and recall the background we discussed on Sunday). How can this be *not true* of our church fellowship? Can you think of a specific portion of Scripture that addresses strength not being in size or numbers? (Bring it up, and talk about how it relates.)
- 6. Jesus said of the overcomer (pillar) *"never shall he go out"* (verse 12) of the temple of God. What significance would this have had on the Christ-followers in Philadelphia? What promise does this hold for us?
- 7. What does a church of brotherly love (a faithful church) "look like"? In what ways are we a church of *brotherly love*? In what ways do we need to grow to be more like the church of Philadelphia?