



Digging Deeper

Putting your faith in ACTION!

This morning let's not be just 'hearers' of the Word, but 'doers of the word. Take some time at lunch, dinner, or bedtime to DIG DEEPER into the today's lesson and story. Take a few moments to apply today's lesson to our lives.

ASK MYSELF...challenging questions for the heart:

1. In what ways have you experienced rejection from the world? How does Christ's words to the church in Philadelphia bring you encouragement?
2. Jesus indicates he holds "The Key" (of David). How does this translate into how you view His ability to 'unlock' answers and provision in your life?
3. Jesus offers the most promises to the "weakest" congregation. How has God shown Himself powerful during your times of weakness?
4. Take some time to pray over today's message.

FOR THE FAMILY...challenging questions for family life:

1. Discuss the idea that God's power and help comes from trusting Him even when we are tempted to give –up on our faith.
2. Discuss the idea that those who follow Jesus are likely to experience opposition and adversity in this life. (John 16:33)
3. The concept might be big, but discuss the fact that Jesus plans to return for His church. What questions does this generate? Why then does it mean we must be very careful in how we live?
4. Take some time pray together.



Today's Service

October 8th, 2017

Series: Seven

Part 6: Philadelphia

Pastor Brian Stanley



Revelation 3:7-13 (NLT) ⁷“Write this letter to the angel of the church in Philadelphia. This is the message from the one who is holy and true, the one who has the key of David. What he opens, no one can close; and what he closes, no one can open: ⁸“I know all the things you do, and I have opened a door for you that no one can close. You have little strength, yet you obeyed my word and did not deny me. ⁹Look, I will force those who belong to Satan’s synagogue—those liars who say they are Jews but are not—to come and bow down at your feet. They will acknowledge that you are the ones I love. ¹⁰“Because you have obeyed my command to persevere, I will protect you from the great time of testing that will come upon the whole world to test those who belong to this world. ¹¹I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have, so that no one will take away your crown. ¹²All who are victorious will become pillars in the Temple of my God, and they will never have to leave it. And I will write on them the name of my God, and they will be citizens in the city of my God—the new Jerusalem that comes down from heaven from my God. And I will also write on them my new name. ¹³“Anyone with ears to hear must listen to the Spirit and understand what he is saying to the churches.”

Opposition and Adversity are never _____ to _____ and Spiritual _____ – the exact opposite is true.

The Author

1. The One who is _____ and _____

Isaiah 40:25 (NLT) ²⁵“To whom will you compare me? Who is my equal?” asks the Holy One.

John 14:6 (NLT) ⁶Jesus told him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.

2. The One who has the _____ of _____.

Isaiah 22:22 (NLT) ²²I will give him the key to the house of David—the highest position in the royal court. When he opens doors, no one will be able to close them; when he closes doors, no one will be able to open them.

3. What he opens, no one can _____; and what he closes, no one can _____:

The church for whom God opens the doors of ministry is the church that keeps His _____ and does not _____ Him.

Ephesians 2:10 (NLT) ¹⁰For we are God’s masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.

1 Thessalonians 4:15-18 (NLT) ¹⁵We tell you this directly from the Lord: We who are still living when the Lord returns will not meet him ahead of those who have died.¹⁶For the Lord himself will come down from heaven with a commanding shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet call of God. First, the believers who have died will rise from their graves. ¹⁷Then, together with them, we who are still alive and remain on the earth will be caught up in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Then we will be with the Lord forever. ¹⁸So encourage each other with these words.

True power comes from _____ God even when you’re _____ to _____ on your faith.

NOTES:

