

Open Doors

❖ Identifying Doors

- Know which doors in our lives are:
 - Open to please the Spirit
 - Open only please the flesh
- Holy Spirit
 - Gives us desires in our heart
 - Opposite of *our* sinful nature
 - ◆ These 2 forces are constantly fighting each other
 - ◆ The struggle causes negativity in our lives
 - Like depression or anxiousness
 - Comes upon us when we are saved
- Other 2 Parts of Us (Other Than Spirit)
 - Soul
 - Our decision-maker, feelings, emotions, etc.
 - Flesh
 - Temptation
 - The enemy uses this to get us off track

Galatians 5:16-26 NLT

¹⁶ So I say, let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. Then you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves. ¹⁷ The sinful nature wants to do evil, which is just the opposite of what the Spirit wants. And the Spirit gives us desires that are the opposite of what the sinful nature desires. These two forces are constantly fighting each other, so you are not free to carry out your good intentions. ¹⁸ But when you are directed by the Spirit, you are not under obligation to the law of Moses. ¹⁹ When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, the results are very clear: sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division, ²¹ envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other sins like these. Let me tell you again, as I have before, that anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God. ²² But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things! ²⁴ Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to his cross and crucified them there. ²⁵ Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives. ²⁶ Let us not become conceited, or provoke one another, or be jealous of one another.

- God's Will
 - Important Kingdoms

- Kingdom of Heaven
- Kingdom of God
- He wants us to have power on earth over our struggles
 - Once we walk in Holy Spirit, we have dominion over them
 - Peace and strength endure from the kingdom of God

❖ **Opening the Door for The Flesh**

- Frank Outlaw:
 - “Watch your thoughts; for they become words. Watch your words; for they become actions. Watch your actions; for they become habits. Watch your habits; for they become character. Watch your character for it will become your destiny.”
- When we open the door for flesh-fulfilling reasons,
 - We allow sinful things into our lives
 - We hide behind this door of doubt and anger
 - Fruits of the flesh begin to run our lives
 - We shut down the goodness in our lives

❖ **Opening the Door for The Spirit**

- When we open the door for spirit-fulfilling reasons,
 - We allow Holy Spirit into our lives
 - Naturally this door remains open
 - Everyone can see the goodness in our lives.
- When we allow our lives to be led by Holy Spirit,
 - We are fulfilling lives as God intended for us to do
 - He wants us to show that our lives are good and fulfilling

❖ **How We Close the Door to Flesh & Open the Door to Holy Spirit**

- Know the address
 - If we know who God is calling us to be, we'll know the proper door.
- Ask ourselves questions
 - I.e. who do we want to become – the flesh or the Spirit?
- Make some goals to help find direction
 - Who?
 - What?
 - When?
 - Where?
 - Why?
- When we know who we want to become,
 - Some things we don't allow into our lives anymore

Proverbs 4:23 NLT

²³ Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life.

❖ **Leave Our Shoes at The Door**

- Leave all the filth of the world outside of our hearts
 - So, God can call us to our destiny
- God is trying to help us past our bad habits (the flesh) into the Spirit
- We must truly repent to move into a new direction

Romans 8:14 NIV

¹⁴ For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.

Revelation 2:5 NLT

⁵ Look how far you have fallen! Turn back to me and do the works you did at first. If you don't repent, I will come and remove your lampstand from its place among the churches.

- If we repent and leave our flesh-filled ways on the alter, God will forgive us
 - He is always here for us
 - His presence is an open door that allows everything He wants in our lives
 - All we must do is open the door and walk through