

THE FAMILY CHURCH MESSAGE NOTES

Title: **Closing Open Doors**

Subtitle: **Live Like You Have A Promise**

Scripture: **Matthew 6:5-6 KJV**

Speaker: **Pastor Ted Winsley**

Date: **January 10, 2024**

Matthew 6:5-6 KJV And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites *are*: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. 6 But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.

Introduction

Jesus is teaching that even when we have been given a covenant promise, our prayer life, and the ability to believe God will be hindered until we shut open doors! Last year we learned about demonic delays. This year we will understand that closing doors leads to experiencing covenant promises!

Open doors- Footholds that become strongholds - (Topos)- **place**, opportunity, **legal** control.

A stronghold is a dominating thought **pattern** that rules how you think, how you **respond**, and determines your behaviors.

- Lies have the ability to **feel** like truth. Once they feel true, they become part of your **identity**.

Jesus taught that prayer is the place that **reveals** your covenant right to receive; but in order to walk in faith, we must shut the door of our **past!**

This will require that we:

- #1. Believe - **Take** and lay hold of it in your mind. **Dream** again. (Get rid of a victim mentality)

Read Romans 8:18 AMPC 18 [But what of that?] For I consider that the sufferings of this present time (this present life) are not worth being compared with the glory that is about to be revealed to us and in us and for us and conferred on us!

- #2. Receive - **Live** like it's true. How dare we **compare** our past with our promise.

- #3. Fight your past for the promise. **Change** the parts of your life that don't **agree** with God's promise!

Read Matthew 25: 8-10 APMC 8 And the foolish said to the wise, Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out. 9 But the wise replied, There will not be enough for us and for you; go instead to the dealers and buy for yourselves. 10 But while they were going away to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were prepared went in with him to the marriage feast; and the door was shut.

3 Revelations Concerning Open Doors

- #1. Open doors cause those who were once wise to become **foolish** enough to believe that they don't need to do their **part** (remain **disciplined**), in order to receive what was promised.

- #2. Open doors create a lack of **discipline**; which causes poor **timing** and **missed** opportunities!

Philippians 3:13-14 AMPC 13 I do not consider, brethren, that I have captured *and* made it my own [yet]; but one thing I do [it is my one aspiration].....

- #3. Closing open doors to every hurt, **failure**, and **person** that is **counterproductive** to God's promise must become your **priority**.

...forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, 14 I press on toward the goal to win the [supreme and heavenly] prize to which God in Christ Jesus is calling us upward.

My Notes

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TFC's 21 Days of Prayer & Fasting - Begins Jan. 8th - Jan 28, 2024. Please join us for prayer on our prayer line Monday – Friday at 5:30 am, 12:30 pm Mid-day devotional via TFC's Facebook and YouTube, and 9:30 pm wherever you are, stop and pray for 3 minutes. We will end with a Night of Worship on Sun., Jan. 28th at 6 pm.

MLK DAY OF SERVICE - Join us Mon. Jan 15th. 8 AM - 12 PM @ TFC as we prepare care packages and peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for our unhoused community. Donations needed, please see insert for items.

FREEDOM EXPERIENCE - Begins Feb. 6th (Tues.) & 8th (Thurs.) via Zoom. ENCOUNTER WEEKEND at TFC, Mar. 15th & 16th (FRI., 7-9 PM & SAT., 9 AM - 2 PM). To register, visit www.thefamilychurchnj.com or the mobile app today.

BODY & SOUL BOOT CAMP: Come out and experience intense workouts that consist of calisthenics, cardio, and strength training. All workouts will incorporate music under the instruction of Herb Cole. Workouts for ages 16+ Sat. Jan. 6 - Mar. 30, 11-12 PM @ TFC. Bring a mat & bottle of water.

WAYS TO GIVE & CONNECT

www.thefamilychurchnj.com

TITHES/OFFERINGS (scan QR code)

1. Text your giving to 84321
2. CashApp to \$Tfcnj
3. Mail-in to The Family Church, 333 Preston Ave. Voorhees, NJ 08043,
4. The Family Church NJ (Mobile app)



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ESTABLISHED 2016

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Holy Communion

1st Sunday of the Month

21 Days of Prayer & Fasting

Corporate Prayer In-Person

Saturday, Jan. 13th, 20th, and 27th 8 am – 9 am

Conference call line 267.807.9605 and access code 114853

Every weekday 5:30 am

Mission Statement

*The Family Church is a Local Community with a
Biblical Mandate to Change Our World
by Restoring God's Family!*

www.thefamilychurchnj.com

TFC Mobile App

Telephone # (856) 448-4546