



Divine Doorways:

Entering the Sacred Opportunities of Daily Life

Text: Colossians 4:2-6

PREPARE

Self-preparation: Enter your study guide preparation time by reading Romans 12:1-2. Spend some time contemplating what "doorways" you are going to go through this week where you feel the Holy Spirit nudging you to renew your mind so that you will do the pleasing and perfect will of God.

Group preparation: Open your group time in prayer, thanking God spontaneously for the blessings you are feeling at this time of year. Go around the circle allowing each member to praise God for what they are feeling thankful for. Close the prayer by asking Him to do a great work in you this week.

OPEN

What are some of the scary or challenging doorways you've had to go through in your life? What was on the other side of them? How did it change your life?

- **Now let's read aloud from Deuteronomy 6:4-9**

Talk about any tough "doorways" you may have to go through in the near future, and what it might be like if you could just pause at the "doorpost" before entering, to seek God's perfect and pleasing will.

DISCUSS

The first two messages in this series guided us through how the various tables and screens in our lives can have a profound impact on how we interact with the world. This week we are looking at the *divine doorways* of our daily life and how we can go through them in a more Christ-like fashion.

1) The LOCKER ROOM DOOR:

- **Have someone read aloud from Colossians 4:2-6.**
 - What do you think "staying alert" or "staying awake" means in verse 2?
 - What is the big idea in verse 3 and 4?
 - How does verse 6 speak into your life right now?

- What happens to you each week as you leave the "CCOB Locker Room"?

2) The DOOR TO YOUR HOME OR WORKPLACE:

- **Have someone read aloud from Philippians 4:4-14.**
 - What would shift in your home/work life, if you paused to dwell on verses 8 and 9 before going through those doors?
 - Paul is showing us how to construct two kinds of peace in verses 4 through 14. One is peace in troubled circumstances and the other is creating an environment of peace around us. What is he recommending?
 - What are the barriers that get in your way when you try to live these words out?

3) The DOOR OF OPPORTUNITY:

- **Have someone read aloud from James 2:15-22.**
 - What do these verses teach us about faith in action?
 - This passage truly is a "locker room" speech, how does it change your game plan?
 - Do you think faith without "works" is a saving faith? Explain.
 - Describe some works that come in the form of kind words, grace, simple mercies and forgiveness. Are they as important to God's kingdom as more tangible acts/works?

CLOSE IN PRAYER: Come before the Lord of the Universe with praise and gratitude, asking Him to renew your mind and inspire in you the desire and courage to exit the "locker room" with an intentional plan to transform the way you enter the doorways of your home, workplace and to divine opportunity.

NEXT STEPS: Spend some quiet time with God this week, reading John 12 and praying/reflecting on the coming time of Lent. Consider covering Lent with a 15 minute fast each day. Fast from something to give you 15 minutes of margin each day and use it to 1) read the Bible for 5 minutes, 2) worship God for 5 minutes (sing, praise, thank, exalt), and then, 3) pray for 5 minutes. It will change you, and your doors!