



# THE LORD'S FLOCK GROWTH DIGEST

## PASTORAL GROWTH SERIES

### Knocking on Heaven's Door

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Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you (Mt. 7:7).

God always has the intention of opening doors for us, we just have to believe.

In life, sometimes we are not sure where God is taking us. We do not know if a breakthrough is going to come or if there is a light at the end of our journey. Being optimistic does not work at times, BUT breakthrough and favor are part of God's plan for us.

#### 5 Kinds of Doors that God Specializes In:

1. **Locked Doors.** The disciples were together, with **the doors locked for fear of** the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" (Jn 20:19)

- Jesus specializes in opening locked doors.
- The disciples locked themselves because of fear.
- Fear is something that we shall wrestle as long as we live.
- We tend to shut down out of fear.
- We lock ourselves in our fears, and when we do:
  - we starve our souls.
  - we miss what God wants us to do.
  - we will not hear the Good News.
  - we hear the Word of God and still insist on what we want.
  - we confine ourselves just to avoid hurt, conflict, correction or even a person and then we miss a lot of things.
- Jesus walked through the wall to show the disciples that He is bigger than their fear.
- In our fear, remember God's PEACE, He is there to guard our hearts when we are afraid and do not know what to do - we do not belong to the locked doors.

2. **Doors of Challenges.** The Slave Girl with a Demonic Spirit. Her masters are making a profit by exploiting

her occult powers. Paul cast out the evil spirit and left the girl. The master went out of business, got mad at Paul and Silas and brought them to prison (Acts 16:16-24).

- Instead of complaining, Paul and Silas praised and worshiped God in the midst of difficulties.
- We do not need to feel better to serve God.
- While we need blessings, we also need challenges - to better know who our God is.
- There is power when we worship God - He lifts our burdens when we start to focus on Him.
- God inhabits in the praises of His people.
- Paul and Silas kept doing what they were doing (praising God), so God showed up through a great earthquake (Acts 16:26) and all doors were opened.
- In your darkest hour, God is going to show up - if you keep on praising Him.
- God will open the doors of challenges and then break all our chains and set us FREE.

3. **Doors of Success.** But I will stay on at Ephesus until Pentecost, because **a great door for effective work has opened to me**, and there are many who oppose me (1 Cor. 16:8-9).

- Success is not according to how we view it, and it is not in our own timetable.
- We base success differently with how God base it.
- We base success by how much we make.
- God is more interested in the success of our souls than in our business and career choice.
- We are always looking at tangible success.
- God is in the process, before he gives us the success that we desire, He wants first to take care of our souls.
- God already made the way for us, all we have to do is trust the process.
- While waiting for the success, let us also watch our mouth - what we confess.

4. **Missed Doors.** When I arrived in Troas to proclaim the Message of the Messiah, I found the place wide open: **God had opened the door; all I had to do was walk through it.** But when I didn't find Titus waiting for me with news of your condition, I couldn't relax. Worried about you, **I left** and went to Macedonia province looking for Titus and a reassuring word on you. And I got it, thanks be to God! (2 Cor. 2:12-14)

- We missed doors because we followed our own desire.
- We did not walk through the doors that God opened because we got scared.
- We would not know what is in store for us if we do not walk through it.
- Do not use your doors for God has already opened the doors for you. Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it (Mt. 7:13).

5. **Doors of Chances (Opportunities).**

- Do not worry if we have missed doors, God is a God of chances.
- If we missed the door, God is always there to provide other doors, but we have to learn from the missed doors.
- God leads us from one place to another. When we follow the Lord, He will lead us from one door to another and these doors are always great. There is nothing wrong with the doors that God will open up for us (2 Cor. 2:14-16).

**Conclusion:** God is a relational God. When He starts opening doors, He wants a relationship. That is why He said, ask and the gift is yours, seek and you'll discover, knock and the door will be opened for you. For every persistent one will get what he asks for. Every persistent seeker will discover what he longs for. And, everyone who knocks persistently will one day find an open door.

- Persistently ask and it shall be given but it has to be according to His will.
- Before the blessings let us seek the Lord first. Seek the Giver not the gift, seek the Healer not the healing, and seek the Provider not the provision.
- When we have a relationship with God, He takes over the desires of our heart. His desire becomes our desire.

- Persistently knock - keep knocking on heaven's door, and watch out, 2020 is going to be great. God will open up wide doors of opportunities, blessings, and breakthroughs for us all.

Keep knocking, God will open the door for you. He is a good Father!

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