

An Open Door

Perhaps you feel like I do, like the Philadelphia church, we have “little strength” for ministry (Revelation 3:7-13). Our strength is not the obstacle to our fruitfulness, though, it is that door! When it is shut, no man can open it, and that means no manipulation or gimmicks or compromise will do it. However, when God chooses to open the door for us no man can shut it! That means that the devil cannot prevail against us, and no heart of man is hard enough to resist the melting powers of the Light of God when it shines through that door!

This year I am praying that we will see doors of ministry opened to us, and I would like for us to claim Revelation 3:8 as a promise, “I have set before thee an open door.” Our theme for the new year, then is: “2012, An Open Door.”

The Lord will not open any doors so that we can stand back and observe and perhaps applaud. “Oh look, He has opened the door, how nice, someone should go through don’t you think? Of course that is not for me, but we have professionals, and people with that kind of personality, they ought to go through, not me.” No, the Lord will open the door for the faithful and true whom He already knows will step through when given the opportunity. We have already shown great faith and unity in working together. You have not lacked in service or sacrifice to this point, let us pray together for an open door in this new year.

If that be to only one soul, or if it be an opening to a hundred, we will leave that to God, but, by all means, we must walk through whenever and wherever He provides an opportunity. Please join me in praying that God gets through to us, and then that we can get through to the lost and/or unchurched of our community. - Pastor

Last Week from our Pulpit:

“What a tremendous testimony the church at Philadelphia (Rev. 3:7-13) had! I often tell folks about churches that I know around our state, and say, ‘That is a great church!’ But what do I know? I see appearances, I hear people’s opinions, I may think I know those involved there, but what is all that worth compared to the perfect knowledge of God? We may be concerned about what this town will think of our church if we do this or that, and our testimony to the world is important, but the One Who we will answer to does not hold the key to the City of Kenosha, or even Bristol, He holds the Key of David! The One to Whom we will answer is the One Who knows us best, and that is a fearful thing.”

A Great Door Opened

I Corinthians 16:9

I. OPPORTUNITY

- A. The People “in Ephesus”
- B. The Power “effectual”

II. ADVERSITY

- A. Temptations

1. Dangers

2. Deceivers

3. Devils

- B. Triumph

1. Persistence

Luke 11:9,10 “And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.”

2. Prayer

Colossians 4:3 “Withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds.”

3. Power

CONCLUSION:



Recordings of our messages are available on CD or they can be downloaded from the church website in MP3 format.



**“a great door
and effectual is
opened unto me,
and there are many
adversaries.”
I Corinthians 16:9**



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A word to visitors from our pastor:

We are glad to have you with us today. I hope that our services will be a blessing to you.

We desire that Southport Baptist be a warm, friendly church, and for God to use us to help our neighbors and friends. When someone near us is confronted with heartache and difficulty we want them to know that God cares, and so do we!

Our church believes and proclaims the old fashioned message that can save souls and change lives. We would like to share with you the joy of life in Jesus Christ. I invite you to experience the excitement of being part of a growing, caring church!

Please give me a call if there is ever anything that I can do for you (at church 857-8063, my cell 496-3739, or at home 764-9849).

Yours in Christ's service,

Pastor Scott Jones

LAST WEEK'S OFFERINGS:

General: \$1,657.51
(\$2,080 per/week needed)

Missions: \$40

Sunday School (missions): \$12.51

Praise the Lord!

Resolve not to let your phone ring in the new year.

We have room for you in

Sunday School



and you have room to grow!

January 8, 2012

Schedule of Services:

Morning Worship 9:00AM

Sunday School 10:30AM

Evening Service 5:30PM

MORNING WORSHIP:

Hymn #529 There Shall Be Showers of Blessing

Hymn #397 Higher Ground

Prayer/Welcome

Hymn #260 Opened for Me

Communion Service

Offering

Hymn #572 He the Pearly Gates Will Open

Special Music: Jones

Message: "A Great Door Opened" I Corinthians 16:9

Hymn #332 The Savior Is Waiting



THIS EVENING:

5pm, *Nominating Committee Meeting.*

5:30pm, In our **Evening Service** we will sing and pray and *Brother Steve Taylor* will open God's Word to us as our Special Speaker.



THIS WEEK:

Wednesday, 6:30pm, **Bible Study and Prayer** for the adults, **Kids Club** and **Teen Club** meet at the same time.

PRAY FOR "BAPTISTS EQUIPPING NATIONALS"

This is an organization that provides theological training for men in ministry on the field in the Middle East. Our church supports B.E.N. through their leader, Dr. Mhagdy Ghabour. They have just begun working in Lebanon, with a lot of interest but a need for more infrastructure there. They have also asked that we pray for their many students in Egypt during the current unrest.



Looking Forward:

January 8, 5pm, Nominating Committee Meeting.

5:30pm, *Steve Taylor* will be our Special Speaker.

January 15,29, 5:30pm, "Growing Kids God's Way" a video parenting class, will be held during the evening service. All parents are invited to get in on this at any time. See Joe Schmoeckel if you have questions.

January 15, 5:30pm, David Morse will preach as the Jones's head out on an anniversary trip.

January 21, 11am, Ladies' Winter Tea.

Invitations are available on the foyer table, why not ask a friend to come and join you?

January 22, 5:30pm, ANNUAL MEETING, everyone is invited and members are needed to participate in elections, budgeting, and planning for the new year.

Thank you, church undecorators and decorators!

Church Cleaners: This Week: Parks

Next week: Coopers *Thank you!*

Special Music: 1/15- Schmoeckel

Ushers Today: Andy G., Warren B., Tim R., Mark C.

Nursery Ministry: AM - Barb H., Abbie R.