



CELL GUIDE

TOPIC	Paul's Open Door	SPEAKER	Ps Bill Wilson
THEME	The Fire of the Footprint	DATE	13 July 2024

MESSAGE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

In this week's sermon, Ps Bill Wilson shared with us about his ministry, Metro World Child, and how the journey started from a defining moment in his childhood. As a child, Ps Wilson was rescued by a stranger after being abandoned by his mother. This experience led to Ps Wilson accepting Christ and eventually founding his ministry. He shared about how one person can make a difference and asked if we are ready and willing to accept when God opens the door of opportunity to serve Him for His kingdom.

WHAT IS THE GREAT AND EFFECTIVE OPENED DOOR

In 1 Corinthians 16:9, it is stated, "For a great and effective door has opened to me, and there are many adversaries." Paul's initial plan was to head to Macedonia but God opened the door for him to tarry in Ephesus first. He saw God's given opportunity and relied not only on his own desires but also on God's open door. This door represents a door of opportunity, obligation and opposition. In a similar way, God will open doors for us. Are we ready when God opens them for us?

1) The door of opportunity

Paul mentioned in 1 Corinthians 16:9 that a great and effective door was opened for him. This door opened is designed to have an effect on people. It is our call that when God opens the door for us, we are to be ready to walk through it to have an influence on others for His sake. Who are we influencing in our lives? Are we influencers for Jesus or the world? Have we asked the Lord lately to open any doors for us?

2) The door of obligation

This door is also a door of obligation. God opened the door for Paul and with Christ as His Master, he was obligated to answer it. Each door in our lives is opened by God and when God invites us to partner us to walk through it, we should be ready to do His will.

3) The door of opposition

Lastly, Paul mentioned that when the door is opened, there will be many adversaries. This door opens two ways – to us and to those who will oppose our work for Christ. We ought to seize that opportunity and get to it first. Otherwise, others will take over the opportunity and prevent our work for Christ in that area. Let us not miss the opportunity when God opens the door for us.

CONCLUSION

Robert Moffat's famous words, "I have sometimes seen, in the morning sun, the smoke of a thousand villages where no one has ever heard the name of Christ," captured the heart of David Livingstone which led to his lifetime commitment to serve the Lord in Africa. Ps Wilson challenges us to reconsider how are we going to spend our lives. He urges us to consider the heart of God and the doors of opportunities He will open in our lives. Let us open our hearts and be willing to say yes to God.

QUESTIONS

1. What doors of opportunities and obligations has God opened in your life so far? How did you respond? Share with one another.

2. How does reflecting on God's provision of opportunities and His presence in adversity strengthen your faith and reliance on Him?

3. The door of opportunity and obligation can also be one of opposition. What are some examples of opposition we may or currently face when we carry out God's will on earth, e.g. in evangelism, etc? How can we overcome them?