

Dig Deeper @Home – “Ears that Hear”

Complement to sermon on August 20, 2017 – “Hold Fast”

MEMORIZE – Revelation 22:7

And behold, I am coming soon. Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book

READ Revelation 3: 7-13

Questions to ponder/discuss:

1. What is this passage revealing about God and what is it revealing about us as humans?
2. If the above is true, what needs to change in your life? What will that look like?
3. Jesus identifies Himself as the “holy one.” Look at these other areas of scripture where this title is used and reflect on what this means that Jesus is using this title.
 - a. Isaiah 40:25
 - b. Habakkuk 3:3
 - c. Mark 1:24
 - d. Acts 3:14
4. In verse 8, Jesus says he has “set before you an open door.” Look up the following passages to help determine what this open door means.
 - a. Acts 14:27
 - b. 1 Corinthians 16:9
 - c. 2 Corinthians 2:12
 - d. Colossians 4:3
5. Read Romans 11. How does this provide insight into Revelation 3:9? Compare/contrast the two.
6. Compare/contrast the promise of verse 9 to have those from the synagogue of Satan bow before the Christians to these verses from Isaiah.
 - a. Isaiah 45:14, 49:23, 60:14

Bottom Line – Summarize Revelation 3: 7-13 in your own words

Experiential

Sometimes activities help us to understand and process biblical truths. The one below is a suggestion for how to experience the truths of Revelation 3: 7-13

Juggle

Get three balls (best if they are all the same and tennis balls work well). Take one and put it in your dominant hand. Juggle it by throwing it up catch it with the same hand. Now throw it back and forth using both hands. Add a second ball. Finally add a third ball.

1. Was it harder with more balls? Why or why not?
2. Which could you juggle the longest? 1, 2 or 3 balls?
3. Connect to Revelation 3. Jesus told the church in Philadelphia they had little strength. This would be like juggling 1 ball. Notice, he doesn't tell them to get better so they can juggle 2 and 3 balls, he simply tells them to hold fast what they have which is to continue keeping his word and not denying his name.
 - a. How well are you doing at holding fast? To keeping his word and not denying his name?
 - b. Is there anything in your life that causes you to stumble in keeping his word? (like juggling with 3 balls instead of 1). How can you eliminate this distraction?

SING (suggested songs to sing. Use these or any song you might want to sing)

10,000 Reasons - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DXDGE_IRIOE

A great song reminding us to hold fast in our faith regardless of what comes our way.

Abide with Me – Mennonite Hymnal #495

A great song reminding us the need for Jesus to remain close to us

PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and to share how you have seen God at work. It is a time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to help us in our lives.

Sending prayer based on the lesson:

Heavenly Father, as we go this week let us be alert, making the most of every opportunity to proclaim the gospel and lead others to Jesus. Amen.