

SERMON

DATE: Saturday - Sunday, February 15-16, 2020

SERMON SERIES: WHO'S YOUR ONE

SERMON TITLE: Looking For Open Doors

1 Corinthians 16:1-9

[1] Now about the collection for the Lord's people: Do what I told the Galatian churches to do.

[2] On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with your income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made.

[3] Then, when I arrive, I will give letters of introduction to the men you approve and send them with your gift to Jerusalem.

[4] If it seems advisable for me to go also, they will accompany me.

[5] After I go through Macedonia, I will come to you—for I will be going through Macedonia.

[6] Perhaps I will stay with you for a while, or even spend the winter, so that you can help me on my journey, wherever I go.

[7] For I do not want to see you now and make only a passing visit; I hope to spend some time with you, if the Lord permits.

[8] But I will stay on at Ephesus until Pentecost,

[9] because a great door for effective work has opened to me, and there are many who oppose me.

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1. Learn how to relate to others.

- Paul's example. 1 Corinthians 16:1-9
 - Treat others as you want to be treated.
 - Do everything “decently and in order”.
 - ***Colossians 4:5-6** Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.*
 - Sometimes we are the adversary.

2. Emphasize the gospel

3. Look for open, effective doors.

4. Live with purpose.

Lagniappe

You have something that 93% of the people who have ever lived don't have - *TODAY*.

Author James Clear said that you have what every king, queen, emperor, CEO, and celebrity of the past would give all their fortune to have – *TODAY*.

What are you going to do with this precious time? What are you going to do with *today* to make a difference?

Paul encouraged the church to make the most of every opportunity. He saw time, not so much as minutes and seconds but opportunities to serve God.

What will you do *today* to make this a day of opportunity?

Let me give you two suggestions.

First, take the opportunity to be kind, caring, and filled with love toward the people around you. There is no one around you as wonderful as your own family. Don't they deserve your best self? Since we don't have *every* day, we have to use *this* day for the glory of God and the good of others.

Second, look for opportunities to give an answer of the reason for the hope you have in Christ (1 Peter 3:15).

Not only do you *have* today; you also have *hope* for today and for all eternity. We live in a world of despair and discouragement. Let us take the opportunity to make the most of this precious day God has given us. Let us pray for our "ones" and let us use our experience with God to show others the way.

Paul's words are so clear and helpful. "*Conduct yourselves wisely toward outsiders, making the most of the time. Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer everyone*" Colossians 4:5-6.