

Revelation Series: Revelation 3:7-13

Week of March 10th, 2024

Text

Have someone read aloud [Revelation 3:7-13](#).

In the letter to the church in Philadelphia, Jesus does not have any criticisms of the church, but that doesn't mean everything has been going well for the church. On the contrary, the church has been put through some difficult times by those who oppose them and Jesus. In those trials, they are encouraged that they are not alone and that Christ is not only with them but also in control. We are presented with two options when we experience difficult times and trials. Trust God and hold firm or trust someone or something else. The good news is that when we place our trust in Christ, we not only put our trust in the one who is in complete control but also in the one who loves us and walks with us through both the mountaintops and the valleys.

Discussion Questions

1. Have you ever accidentally walked through the wrong door? What was that like?
2. How is the Church in Philadelphia similar to and different from the other churches discussed so far? (Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis)
3. What does it mean that Jesus "holds the keys of David, and what he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts, no one can open?"

Have someone read aloud [2 Corinthians 11:24-30](#).

4. Why does weakness and suffering equal strength in the Kingdom of God?



Application Questions

1. Has God ever answered your prayer request with suffering or challenging times? What was that like?
2. Why do you think weakness and suffering are such difficult realities to accept for believers and unbelievers?
3. How would you answer someone who asks you, "Why does a loving God allow so much suffering?"
4. Is there a doorway (opportunity) in your life that you feel like God is calling you to walk through or walk past? What is it?

Prayer

At the end of your conversation, spend some time praying as a group. Here are some prompts:

1. Pray for those facing a doorway in their lives to have the wisdom to know whether to walk through that door or past it.
2. Pray for individuals in your group or life who are walking through suffering. Consider praying some of these scriptures over those suffering.
[Romans 8:18](#), [Psalm 34:18](#), [Philippians 4:7](#)

Additional Resources and Information

Here are some additional resources for this week's topics and texts.

Commentary Download

Click below to download a short commentary resource from Lifeway Small Group resources by David Platt.

[Revelation 3:1-22 Commentary Download](#)

More Resources on Revelation

Linked below are additional resources for diving deeper into your study of the Book of Revelation.

longhollow.com/resources

