## Revelation 3:7-13 – Small Church, Big Opportunity The church at Philadelphia

THE CITY:	
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<ul> <li>Major</li> </ul>	
•	
<ul><li> Central</li></ul>	
THE CHURCH:	
<ul><li>Pressured from</li></ul>	
Christians	
CHRIST'S SELF-INTRODUCTION:	
•	
•	
<ul><li>Holds The</li></ul>	
THE CHURCH IS COMMENDED:	
Obedience and Patience in	
ENCOURAGEMENT AND PROMISES:	
<ul><li>Eventual (Sooner or Later)</li></ul>	
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o <b>A</b>	
THREE PRACTICAL TRUTHS ABOUT OPEN DOORS:	
Open doors don't guarantee fraction	om
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is more important than	
<ul><li>Faithfulness in brings oppor</li></ul>	rtunity in

## **Questions for Reflection:**

- 1. Looking back on your life, can you identify some doors that were closed to you in your career, social life, school, or otherwise? How did you respond at the time?
- 2. In retrospect what other doors of opportunity opened up at that time?
- 3. The church at Philadelphia was commended for keeping Christ's word and for persevering in the face of trouble and hardship. How was this church able to persevere?
- 4. What qualities do you think Christ might affirm in your life? How about the area of persevering in the midst of trial?
- 5. The church at Philadelphia had pressure from all sides to compromise their faith. What pressures do you face that threaten your ability to persevere in the faith?
- 6. What effect does the description of Christ and his promises in Rev. 3:7-13 have on our confidence and courage to seize opportunities for ministry?
- 7. In his message, Mark mentioned that the time to prepare for future opportunities is in the present. What are you doing or do you need to do now, to maximize future opportunities?
- 8. What open doors has the Lord placed before you today? How have you, or how will you take advantage of these opportunities?
- 9. In this letter Christ reminds the church he is coming back. He said the same thing to the church at Sardis. To one it was a warning, to the other it was encouragement. When you think of Christ's return, which one is it for you?