

Online Bible Study
Doors – Storage Door

A door is a pathway to opportunity. We walk through doors everyday. Some days we open doors to new relationships or new business. Other days we close the doors on activities, relationships, and sometimes even on God. God created a pathway for us to know Him. He sent Christ to be the open door for us to know God and the power of His love.

The storage room door is a very personal door. Behind that door is a place full of junk. In the storage room lay old hurts, bad habits, bad attitudes, resentment, and all other types of sin. It's in that room where we find our deepest hurts.

God wants entrance to that room. God longs for you to give Him the keys to unlock the door and to move into that space where He can fully extend His grace. We recognize that His way is best, but there are times when we feel comforted by the stuff in that room. Sometimes we even like the way it makes us feel. But those feelings are fleeting. They are temporal. They cannot fulfill.

In order to begin the process of letting God have total control of the storage room, we must first give Him our full devotion. God wants us to recognize that the stuff in our storage room is not leading us to a full life, but rather leading us away from life. Repentance is the key that we hand to Jesus.

Read Matthew 3:1-3, Matthew 4:17, and Mark 1:14-15. Then walk through the following process:

As you read, you clearly heard the command to repent. There is a difference between being sorry for something and repenting. Repent simply means, "to turn around from..." We are called to turn from our sin, to literally turn in another direction from it. We are to mourn for our sin, and to turn from it.

Take a moment to name it. Name the stuff in your storage room. Name all the stuff you have stored there. Name it here.

Now take a moment to lay those things before God. Give these sins, these hurts, and these feelings to Him. Give Him your stuff. Take responsibility for your stuff and lay it before Him. Repent and ask Him for complete forgiveness and restoration from sin.

Luke 3: 8 says to “Produce fruit in keeping with repentance.” Its God’s desire that we repent, that we turn from the storage room and let Him clean it out, but also that we produce fruit in keeping with repentance. We must not only walk away from this stuff, but we must also begin to live in the goodness of His grace.

What would it look like for you to produce fruit in keeping with repentance?

Psalm 32 says, Blessed is he
whose transgressions are forgiven,
whose sins are covered.

2 Blessed is the man
whose sin the LORD does not count against him
and in whose spirit is no deceit.

3 When I kept silent,
my bones wasted away
through my groaning all day long.

4 For day and night
your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was sapped
as in the heat of summer.
Selah

5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you
and did not cover up my iniquity.
I said, "I will confess
my transgressions to the LORD"—
and you forgave
the guilt of my sin.
Selah

6 Therefore let everyone who is godly pray to you
while you may be found;
surely when the mighty waters rise,
they will not reach him.

7 You are my hiding place;
you will protect me from trouble

and surround me with songs of deliverance.
Selah

8 I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;
I will counsel you and watch over you.

9 Do not be like the horse or the mule,
which have no understanding
but must be controlled by bit and bridle
or they will not come to you.

10 Many are the woes of the wicked,
but the LORD's unfailing love
surrounds the man who trusts in him.

11 Rejoice in the LORD and be glad, you righteous;
sing, all you who are upright in heart!

As you read this Psalm, what immediately comes to mind?

David writes these words in a spirit of repentance. Notice verse five: "Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity / I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the Lord – and you forgave the guilt of my sin.'" Once we have made confession for our sin, once we have given God all the stuff in our storage room, we are free.

What makes hiding sin so enticing?

It may be that you might have to live in an awareness of your sin. It may be that your sin will not simply walk away from your storage room. Those sins may want to come back, they may want to reoccupy that space in your life. How can you live this week with an awareness of the enticement of sin?

This week is traditionally called Holy Week. It's a week where our focus is directed to the cross, the tomb, and the power of the resurrection. The same power that raised Christ from the dead on Easter Sunday is the power that lives in you. Paul writes in Philippians 3:10, "I want to know Christ and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like Him in his death, and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead."

What does this truth mean to you? What does the resurrection of Christ mean to you?
What does the power of His resurrection mean to you today?

As we approach Easter weekend be sure to organize your life in such a way that you can think through the power of this weekend and what this weekend means to your salvation in Christ.

*Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus:
Who, being in very nature God,
did not consider equality with God something to be grasped,
but made Himself nothing,
taking the very nature of a servant,
being made in human likeness.
And being found in appearance as a man,
He humbled himself
and became obedient to death—
even death on a cross!
Therefore God exalted Him to the highest place
and gave him the name that is above every name,
that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.*

Philippians 2:5-11