

# When God Opens Doors Your Commitment Must Hold

## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

"WHEN GOD OPENS DOORS YOUR COMMITMENT MUST HOLD"

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Based on the message by Pastor Bill Wilson

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### 1. SERMON RECAP

Pastor Bill Wilson, drawing from over 60 years of ministry experience, challenged the congregation to live with their hands on the handle -- ready and committed when God sovereignly opens a door of opportunity. Using 1 Corinthians 16:9 as his anchor, he unpacked three types of doors Paul described: a door of opportunity, a door of obligation, and a door of opposition. He reminded everyone that the two most important days of a person's life are the day they were born and the day they finally figure out why.

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### 2. KEY SCRIPTURE

#### 1 Corinthians 16:9 (KJV)

"For a great door and effectual is opened unto me, and there are many adversaries."

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### 3. ICE BREAKER

Think of a time you walked through a literal door into something completely unexpected -- a new job, a new city, a new friendship. What was on the other side that surprised you? Share with the group!

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### 4. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

#### 1. The Two Most Important Days

Pastor Bill opened with the idea that the two most important days of your life are the day you were born and the day you figure out why. Where do you think you are on that journey right now? Have you figured out your "why"? What helped you get there -- or what's keeping you from it?

#### 2. Hand on the Handle

Pastor Bill challenged everyone to live with their hand on the handle -- staying ready rather than scrambling to get ready when opportunity arrives. Honestly, how ready do you feel right now if God opened a significant door this week? What would need to change for you to be more prepared?

### **3. The Door of Opportunity**

He described the door Paul encountered as one of opportunity -- something God sovereignly placed in front of him. Can you think of a door of opportunity that opened in your life that you almost missed, or one you did miss? What did that teach you about paying attention to what God is doing around you?

### **4. The Door of Obligation**

Pastor Bill made the point that when God opens a door, you are obligated to walk through it. That's a strong word. Do you agree with that framing? Where does personal choice end and spiritual obligation begin? How do you discern the difference between a door God is opening and simply a tempting opportunity?

### **5. The Door of Opposition**

One of Pastor Bill's most striking observations was that Paul didn't say despite the adversaries, he was staying -- he said the same door open to him was open to the adversaries too. The question was who would go through it first. How has opposition in your life actually been a signal that you were on the right track? Has fear of opposition ever kept you from walking through a door?

### **6. Commitment vs. Emotions**

Pastor Bill said that your commitment has to be stronger than your emotions -- and that he has seen many people drift away when things get hard. What are some practical habits or anchors that help you keep your commitment strong when your emotions are pulling you toward the exit?

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## **5. APPLICATION CHALLENGE**

This week, identify one specific door of opportunity that is already open in front of you -- it might be serving in a ministry at church, having a spiritual conversation with someone at work, or joining a missions project you've been hesitant about. Write it down on a piece of paper, and physically place that paper somewhere you'll see it every day -- your bathroom mirror, your dashboard, your desk. At the end of the week, bring back a one-sentence update to share with the group: Did I step through the door, or did I leave my hand off the handle?

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## **6. PRAYER POINTS**

- Pray for discernment -- that each group member would have clear eyes to recognize the specific doors God is opening for them in this season of life, and the courage not to second-guess what they see.
  - Pray for commitment over emotion -- that when opposition comes, discouragement creeps in, or the cost feels too high, each person would find their commitment anchored in God's call rather than in how they feel that day.
  - Pray for the Papua New Guinea mission trip -- that Pastor Bill and Pastor Mirek's upcoming trip would plant seeds that multiply across an entire country, and that the right leaders in Papua New Guinea would have their hands already on the handle when that door opens in front of them.
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## 7. MEMORY VERSE

### 1 Corinthians 16:9 (KJV)

"For a great door and effectual is opened unto me, and there are many adversaries."

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Leader's Note: Don't rush the discussion -- the best conversations often happen when the group sits quietly with a hard question for a moment before someone speaks. That silence is not awkward; it's the Holy Spirit working. Trust it.