

## Opening the Door

Ezra 7:6,10-11

March 8, 2015

What helps to open the door for God to move in our lives?

Seen in the life of Ezra in his \_\_\_\_\_ to God  
set his heart, prepared, determined, committed, establish

Danger when we don't...2 Chronicles 12:14

Where is my \_\_\_\_\_?

Ezra's devotion is seen in three areas all related to God's Word

1. \_\_\_\_\_ : means "to seek with care"

Always with the ultimate purpose to \_\_\_\_\_

Old Testament example Jeremiah 9:23-24

New Testament example Philippians 3:8-11

To the point – John 17:3

Are you getting to know Him better?

2. \_\_\_\_\_ : means "to do"

Final instructions from two Godly leaders from O.T.

Moses: Deuteronomy 30:19-20 (choosing life)

Samuel: 1 Samuel 12:14 (obey, follow)

Jesus' words

Illustrates the truth: Matthew 7:24-27

True of those who are blessed : Luke 11:28

Distinguishing trait of Jesus' family: Matt. 12:50

3. \_\_\_\_\_ means training as well as educating

Too good to keep to self!

We can make it a bigger deal than it is...

1 Thessalonians 5:11

Romans 1:11-12

Hebrews 10:24

**Do you want to make sure the door is open for God to be moving in your life?**

1. Start with your heart. Is there a need for change?
2. How are you doing at getting to know Him better? Anything getting in the way? Is it time to stop making excuses and do it? Do you see it as a chore or an amazing opportunity?
3. Ask God to show you anything that needs to change in your actions related to living out your faith? Things to stop doing and things to start doing.
4. Do you struggle to believe that God wants to use you (because you are not qualified) to encourage others in their relationship with God?

God can use this to help get you more on track with Him.

5. Will you commit to pray about how and who God wants you to “mutually encourage” in the faith.