

S.O.H.L.

(02/18/08)

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS

Pronounced "Soul"

Close The Door

The word "[close](#)" is defined as a conclusion or to end in time or existence. Have you ever been to a concert and the auditorium was full in capacity? The doors were shut as an indication that no one else could come in and you did not make it in. Or think about when we were in high school and the teacher would close the door to the classroom once the bell would ring. This means that everyone was present or late. And of course, the late ones would have to deal with the consequences. Or did you notice that at a beginning of a funeral, the coffin would remain open so that everyone could view the remains and then it is closed permanently once the family has completed the final reviewing.

I am blessed to know that God is more concerned about the opening of things than the closing. You know, "the opening of a relationship and fellowship with Him" for example. God says in [Revelation 3:20](#), "Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me". But what does the passage indicate about the lukewarm or (Laodicean) church at this point? When we cannot hear our Savior's voice, our minds must be focused on something else! In other words, we shut God out of our lives. This is a common occurrence in our lives today and Satan loves every minute of it. Jesus judges the lukewarm church to be blind. Paul uses a different approach in 1 [Thessalonians 5:4-8](#). He is simply saying that he is in the dark. Spiritually, blindness and living in darkness are much the same. How good is one's judgment when he cannot see? Living in darkness is the equivalent of being morally insensitive or unstable, that is, not knowing right from wrong.

Let's stop opening the door and rejecting God by closing the door on Him as we please. You know, "calling on God only when it's at our convenience". Let's stop looking through the peephole playing that who is it game, when you know who it is. Let Him in your heart totally before He decides to [close the door!](#)

SCRIPTURE READING

MATTHEW 25:1-13

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

No man can sincerely try to help another without helping himself.

February 1, 2008

