

All The Places To Go Life Groups Homework January 14, 2018 "How Will You Know?"

Introduction

Welcome to the first week of our new sermon series *All The Places To Go*! One of the most pressing questions we face in matters large and small is, "What is God's will for me to do?" In this series we will take a careful look at this question using John Ortberg's recent book *All The Places To Go*. Together we will learn how God open doors for us into new adventures in life every day. We will explore how to be attentive to those doors and how to walk through them confidently with Jesus.

This guide is designed to facilitate deeper understanding and application of the sermon material as well as chapter one of the book. Leaders should feel free to tailor it to suit their group's unique culture.

Getting Started

1. What can a door mean? What does it mean when it's open? What does it mean when *God* has opened it? (from the participant's guide)

2. In chapter one, Ortberg teaches that God can open a door in any circumstances. Share a time in your life when God unexpectedly opened a door. What did you do?

Going Deeper

1. Read Matthew 4:18-22. What do you observe about Jesus' call and the disciples' response? According to the sermon, what do we learn about open doors?

2. Read Acts 17:24-27. Why do you think Paul makes a point to highlight the nearness of God in his teaching to the people of Athens? What does this mean for us as we seek God's will for our lives?



Living It Out

1. "The ability to recognize doors – to discover the range of possibilities that lie before us in every moment and in any circumstance – is a skill that can be learned. It brings the possibility of God's presence and power into any situation on earth." (8-9)

What do you think Ortberg means in calling the ability to recognize doors a skill? How do we come to know that it is, in fact, God who is opening a door in front of us?

2. "God's primary will for your life is not the achievements you accrue; it's the person you become. God's primary will for your life is not what job you take; it's not primarily situational or circumstantial. It's not mainly the city where you live or whether you get married or what house you ought to be in. God's primary will for your life is that you become a magnificent person in his image, somebody with the character of Jesus. That is God's main will for your life." (15-16)

How is God using the decisions you make to shape you into the person who created you to be? Try to give specific examples.

3. What doors is God opening in your life in this season? What do you plan to do? How can the group be praying for you?

Corporate Prayer

Close your meeting by praying for one another, both for specific requests and that all members would be transformed by the message encountered in this week's sermon.

