

Weekly Message Weekly Message



Greetings special friends,
Those of us in Texas that have had record breaking heat got a break today. It is a gorgeous day in the 70's and we are off to the Dance/Drill Team Directors of America convention in Dallas. We hope to see many of you there.

Here are some thoughts for the day:

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**"Everything holds its breath except spring.  
She bursts through as strong as ever."  
Emily Carr (1871-1945) artist and writer**  
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**"You know your children are growing up when they stop asking you
where they came from and refuse to tell you where they are going."
author unknown**
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**"Sometimes the best way to convince someone  
he is wrong is to let him have his way."  
author unknown**  
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**"Every intersection in the road of life is an
opportunity to make a decision."
Duke Ellington (1899-1974)**
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Each of you that attends our summer camps and winter competitions know that the my final words are "When God closes a door, He opens a window." When I was searching for the devotional to present this past weekend, I found a passage that truly explains why we should be grateful for closed doors. I have included that passage below and hope that you will find the importance of closed doors in your life. Have a fabulous week, and, as always, please *keep in touch*.

*Sincerely,*

*Joyce E. Pennington, Pres. CEO*

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## CLOSED DOORS

*Author unknown*

We need to learn to praise the Lord as much for a closed door as we do an open door. The reason God closes doors is because He has not prepared anything over there for us. If he didn't close the wrong door, we would never find the right door.

God directs our path through the closing and opening of doors. Once a door closes, it forces you to change your course. Another door closes, it forces you to change your course again. Then, finally, you find the open door and you walk right into your blessing.

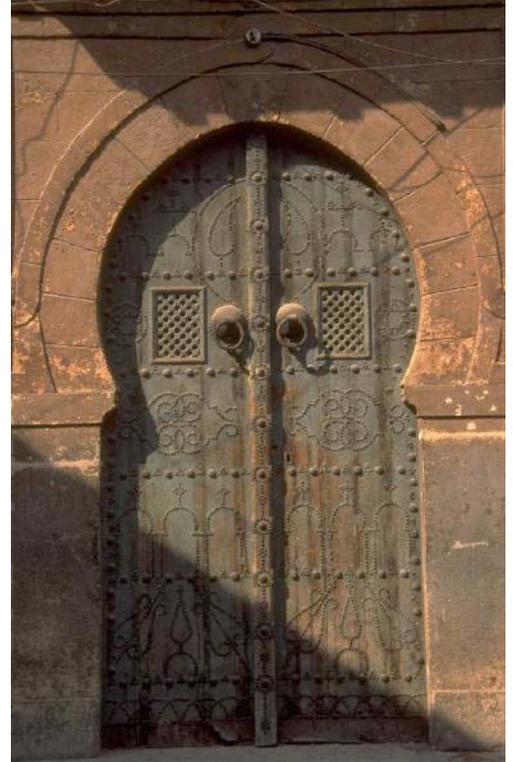
The Lord directs our paths through the opening and closing of doors, but instead of praising him for the closed door (which keeps us out of trouble); we get upset because we "judge by the appearances."

You have an ever-present help in the time of trouble that is always standing guard. Because He walks ahead of you, He can spot trouble down the road and set up a roadblock or detour accordingly. But through our lack of wisdom, we try to tear down the roadblocks or push aside the detour sign. Then the minute we get into trouble, we start crying, "Lord, how could You have done this to me?"

We have got to realize that the closed door can be a blessing. Didn't He say that no good thing would He withhold from them that love Him?

If you get terminated from your job, praise God for the new opportunities that will manifest themselves: it might be another job, it might be school.

If that man or woman won't return your call, it might not be them, it might be the Lord setting up a roadblock (just let it go).





One time, a person had a bank they had been in business with for many years tell them "No!" to a \$10,000 loan. The Lord put in their spirit to call another bank. That bank gave them \$40,000 at a lower interest rate than the first bank was offering.

We can sometimes trap ourselves in doubt and discouragement through judging by appearances. Be grateful for the many times our Father has closed doors to us just to open them in the most unexpected places.

The Lord won't always say in spoken words: "Go to the left, now to the right" ...sometimes He will just close the doors that are wrong for you.

God Bless You Always!