



VII LETTERS

**HOLD ON
TO WHAT
YOU HAVE...**

—JESUS

Sunday, September 20 , 2020

DEAR PHILADELPHIA

*You have little strength, yet you have obeyed my word and did not deny me.
Revelation 3:8*

Little is much when God is in it. These words ring true in the letter to the church at Philadelphia, and they ring true today. In a world that is infatuated with Bigger and Better, the church is called to remain faithful even though it is small and God will be glorified.



WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

Thank you for continuing to be faithful in your giving to the work of God's Kingdom building efforts through Crystal Coast church of the Nazarene.

Giving Report for August 30th, 2020:

- ◆ Tithes: \$3682.00
- ◆ Faith Promise: \$240.00
- ◆ Alabaster: \$124.00
- ◆ Total \$4066.00

Remember that you can worship by placing your tithes and offerings in the collection box on your way into the sanctuary or as you leave. We'd also encourage you to continue to give online as well.

You can give online by [CLICKING HERE](#), or you can mail your offerings to the church @ 4311 Country Club Rd, MHC, NC 28557. For those who are not comfortable giving online or via mail. Also a drop box has been installed by the rear entrance opposite of the church office.

If giving on line, I would recommend that you use the “Bank Account” option rather than the credit card option. By using this option there are no processing fees to cover. If you do choose to use your debit card the processing fee is 1.9%. The company that we have partnered with for our online giving has a good article to help you understand this process, and you can access that [HERE](#).

They also have a great Donor guide that will help you with most of the setup and use questions you may have [HERE](#).



DISCUSSION GUIDE

Key Points From the Message

Dispute the difficult circumstances the church faced, Jesus had opened a tremendous door to them to spread the Good News of the Kingdom of God to the entire region.

Jesus calls the church to look to the open doors instead of focusing on the ones that are closed...If we are not willing to walk through the doors he has opened, why would we expect him to open other doors?

Little strength does not negate the call to obedience. We need to be able to not only recognize the doors that have been opened to us but also give thanks and praise to God as we walk through them.

You can become too big for God to use, but you will ever be to small.

Reflect:

Jesus commends this small and weak church for their faithful obedience. What other stories from scripture remind us of the principle that God uses the weak and small?

Jesus reveals himself as the real deal, not a substitution. What do substitutes do we tend to put in place of the real deal, Jesus?

In what real world examples is bigger not always better?

Discuss:

What doors has Jesus opened to you? How might you faithfully walk through them?

In what ways do you let your perception of personal strength and faith stand in the way of you walking through the open doors?

In what ways can we as individuals be tempted to sell our birthright for a bowl of soup? How might the church be guilty of the same?