

# When God Opens a Door

August 10, 2014

Acts 16:25–34

Two weeks ago we learned from Gamaliel that:

**God has a \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ can stop it.**

This week we will ask:

**Does God have a specific plan for your life? And, if so, can anyone stop it?**

When it comes to decision making many Christians are afraid of \_\_\_\_\_ “God’s plan for his/her life.” They think of God’s will is:

... like a corn \_\_\_\_\_ with only one way out and lots of dead ends, or like a bull’s-eye with the center of God’s will in the middle and second best everywhere else, or like a Magic 8-Ball that we are supposed to shake around until some generic answer floats to the top ...

DeYoung, Kevin, *Just Do Something* (Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2009), 43.

**Let’s examine one of the methods some use to navigate this maze: \_\_\_\_\_**

Acts 16:25–34; 1 Corinthians 16:8-9; 2 Corinthians 2:12-13

(Apparently the Apostle Paul did not use “open door” theology.)

Praying that God will open a door is one thing, but when we wait on “open doors” and give up on “closed doors” we make decisions based our own \_\_\_\_\_.

When we “\_\_\_\_\_” **in our decision making**, we spurn our own God-given ability to reason and free will. We may even stunt our own \_\_\_\_\_.

**What should we do instead?**

Instead of focusing on “God’s plan for my life” focus on: “\_\_\_\_\_.”

Focus on the parts of God’s will revealed in Scripture not on \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ directives. “But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.” (Matthew 6:33 NIV)

Stop praying that God will make the decision for you; start praying for \_\_\_\_\_ (James 1:5).

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