



House Party – Part 6

“Who is Your Enemy?”

Pastor Ron Carpenter, Jr. | Discussion Guide

MESSAGE SUMMARY

Drawing on 1 Corinthians 16:9, this message teaches that doors represent opportunity (access to a new season) and that adversaries often stand in front. Because the enemy attacks what he fears, resistance can signal that we have become a threat. This week, Pastor builds upon his previous message on doors and challenges us to change our perspective on our enemies – that they can announce and expose your next season. By better understanding the nature of our enemies, we will gain the tools to use them as a vehicle for promotion rather than discouragement. When we understand the nature of our enemies, we realize that we CAN overcome them and open the new door God has for us!

KEY SCRIPTURES

1 Corinthians 16:9 & 1 Corinthians 2:8 (NKJV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. DOORS AND ADVERSARIES GO TOGETHER

- **RECAP: Four types of doors:** push doors (more effort and energy), presence doors (open as we draw close, such as a closer walk with God), timing doors (open at God's appointed moment), and combination doors (we must solve a problem).
- Doors equal opportunity and access, and the door in front of us determines our level of access.
- Where there is a door, there is typically an adversary standing in front of it. We may see the difficulty before we see the opportunity.
- **Discussion Questions**
 1. Which type of door (push, presence, timing, or combination) best describes the opportunity you are facing right now? Why?
 2. Paul saw a great door and many adversaries in the same verse. When you meet resistance, are you more likely to see it as a closed door or as a sign of a door nearby? Why?

2. OPPOSITION REVEALS WHAT MATTERS

- The fact that we are being attacked or opposed suggests we are a threat. The enemy attacks what he fears.
- When we make a decision in alignment with our purpose, we become a threat, and what the enemy is fighting becomes clearer.

- Opposition can move us forward in our purpose and even multiply us.
- 1 Corinthians 2:8: if the rulers of this age had known, they would not have crucified our Savior. Opposition ended up serving God's plan.

Discussion Questions

1. Which area of your life feels like the biggest fight right now? What might it reveal about what God has placed in you?
2. How does 1 Corinthians 2:8 change the way you view the opposition in your own life?

3. WHO ADVANCES YOUR PURPOSE?

- Judas is not the enemy; he revealed the real enemies. He moved Jesus toward His purpose.
- A “Judas” is often a friend to the enemy too, which makes him hard to spot.
- An enemy is an announcement that the next season has begun, and we may need to change our circle to embrace what is new.
- **Discussion Questions**
 1. Describe the kind of person who helps you live out your purpose. How have they made a difference?
 2. Are there habits or environments you are trying to leave behind that certain relationships make harder? (Share in general terms; no need to name names.)

4. WEARINESS MAKES ENEMIES LOOK BIGGER

- When we are tired, everything looks bigger. The enemy may not be too big; we may just be tired.
- The answer is refreshment in God's presence.
- If there is a devil I won't fight, there is an opportunity I can't access.

Discussion Questions

1. Think of a time when exhaustion made a challenge feel bigger than it was. What changed once you were rested or refreshed?
2. What would it look like to be excited, rather than discouraged, about the adversary in front of your next door?

CONCLUSION & CHALLENGE

Doors and adversaries come together. The resistance we face may be evidence that we are standing in front of something God has for us, and it often reveals what matters most. As we guard our circle, take care of our weariness, and prepare for our door, we can face the adversary with confidence rather than fear.

Group Challenge

1. Go around the group and share the door you believe you are standing in front of and the adversary you see in front of it.
2. Pray for each person by name, asking for strength, wisdom, and clarity.
3. Commit to checking in with one another during the week to share what you are seeing and learning.

Personal Challenge

- **Identify your door:** write down the opportunity you are believing for and the type of door it may be.
- **Name your adversary:** write down what resistance you are facing and what it may reveal about your purpose.
- **Evaluate your circle:** choose one relationship or environment to invest in or adjust.
- **Refresh:** take intentional time in God's presence to regain strength and perspective.

Memory Verse

"For a great and effective door has opened to me, and there are many adversaries."

— 1 Corinthians 16:9 (NKJV)

