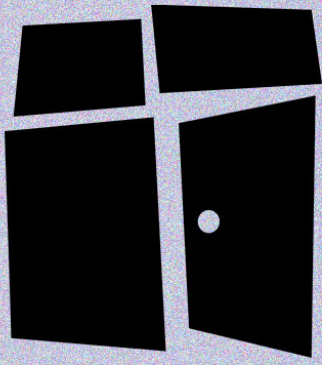




WELCOME TO CHURCH OF THE OPEN DOOR

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

August 16, 2026



The State of Theology

GROUP SURVEY

STATE OF THEOLOGY SURVEY

We are conducting a church wide survey so we can better understand the theological heartbeat of our church community. Our desire is to see where we have opportunities for greater teaching, discipleship and spiritual growth for you!

Your answers are completely anonymous. When finished, you will be able to see your results immediately where you can choose to view a deeper analysis of the questions and answers.

We'd love for you to participate! To take the survey:

- opendoor.tv/survey
- or, text 'SURVEY26' to 440.323.4644

GENERATION HOUSE WORK DAY

Saturday, Aug 29 • 9am-12pm • 158 Gateway Blvd. Elyria, OH, 44035

The mission of the Generation House is to lead families out of homelessness while modeling Christ to them.

This clean-up and beautification day is the perfect opportunity to show the love of Jesus by working with your hands and serving! We will be cleaning up the Generation House yard, planting flowers, painting, and more.

Everyone is welcome! Let us know you're coming, text **'WORKDAY'** to 440.323.4644



ASPIRE WOMEN'S CONFERENCE • SEPT. 18 • ELYRIA CAMPUS

Church of the Open Door is hosting "Aspire" —a one-night event for women on Friday, September 18th at the Elyria campus. It will be a "ladies night out" full of laughter, learning, stories, and worship. The event features a Christian comedian, Bible teacher, and a worship leader scheduled to encourage and recharge the ladies attending!

- Tickets: \$25 | \$35 for VIP
- To order tickets, text **"WOMEN"** to 440.323.4644

SAVE OUR PHONE NUMBER

440.323.4644

to call, text, & register for events!

LOOKING FOR MORE INFO?

- * visit [OPENDOOR.TV/EVENTS](https://opendoor.tv/events)
- * download the OPEN DOOR APP



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THE MIND OF CHRIST



SERMON NOTES | AUGUST 16, 2026

Paul's Chains and God's Purposes

PHILIPPIANS 1:12–14

Key Question: How should we _____ our setbacks and our suffering?

While in chains, Paul recognized that...

1. Setbacks and suffering are an inescapable reality:

God sovereignly allows setbacks and suffering into our lives.

- Setbacks and suffering were _____ new to Paul's journey.
- Setbacks and suffering were not a _____ from God's plan.

Application: Our setbacks don't sideline God's _____.

2. Setbacks and suffering are a divine opportunity:

God _____ uses setbacks and suffering for our ultimate good and His ultimate glory.

- Because Paul understood that the advancement of the gospel was of greater value than His personal comfort, his chains went from being an _____ to an _____.
- On account of Paul's chains, Paul could _____ the lost and _____ the found.

Take Home Truth: When God allows setbacks and suffering into your life, rather than looking for the _____, look for the opportunity to point to the _____ we have in Christ.

Q. What is our only [hope] in life and in death?

A. That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.

He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.

Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.
