

Doors Once Closed Now Opened Again

This week, we had the opportunity to move a new church planter, Chad Ray and his wife Shanda, children Will, Kayli, and Samuel into the area. The new location of the church they will be ministering is actually a church building where no one longer meets.

There was a sign posted on the door: "Services cancelled." My heart was filled with sadness when I read the sign. Here was this beautiful place of worship, and the doors were closed.

Then, this morning as I read my daily Bible reading and had my quiet time, I felt the need to share.

After listening to the news over the past few days, I think you will agree with me that our nation needs help! We may ask, "What part can I play to see the change that needs to take place in our country?" HERE IS THE ANSWER!

In 2 Chronicles 28, King Ahaz didn't live right in the eyes of the Lord. God got fed up with him and allowed MANY disasters. Even then, Ahaz didn't learn his lesson. So, things went from bad to worse. Ahaz ruins the country and then, it says, he dies.

Next on the scene of leadership is King Hezekiah. In the 1st month of his reign, he repaired the doors of The Temple and then he called his people together and told them:

"Levites, listen! Consecrate yourselves and consecrate The Temple of God -give this much-defiled place a good housecleaning. Our ancestors went wrong and lived badly before God- they discarded him, turned away from this house where we meet with God, and walked off. They boarded up the doors, turned out the lights, and cancelled all the acts of worship of the God of Israel in the holy Temple. And because of that, God's anger flared up and he turned those people into a public exhibit of disaster, a moral history lesson – look and read! This is why our ancestors were killed and this is why our wives and sons and daughters were taken prisoner and made slaves. I have decided to make a covenant with the God of Israel and turn history around so that God will no longer be angry with us. Children, don't drag your feet in this! God has chosen you to take your place before him to serve in conducting and leading worship- this is your life work; make sure you do it and do it well." 2nd Chronicles 29:1-11 MSG

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If you continue to read on through 2nd Chronicles 32, you will see where the people did turn to God. Did Hezekiah mess up? YES, but he continued to seek God because he knew that God was the answer to the destruction caused by the people who didn't seek Him.

We have been given the answer.

If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land. 2nd Chronicles 7:14

WE CAN BE PART OF THE SOLUTION!

I want to close with a praise. I am so thankful for families like the Rays who are willing to re-open the doors that once were closed and to preach the Good News of Jesus Christ.