

# Common Ground Café

Sermon Discussion Guide

Sunday, November 17, 2019



## The Eternal Difference Your Confidence Can Make

Revelation 3:7-13

[www.hillcrest.church](http://www.hillcrest.church)

## Get to Know You

What are some trophies/awards that you have thrown out over the years? What are some that you have kept?

## Study the Book

Read Revelation 3:7-13

**Your confidence in Christ may make an eternal difference for others.**

What is the common theme in connection with the "open door" found in the following verses?

Acts 14:27

1 Corinthians 16:9

2 Corinthians 2:12

Colossians 4:3

Based on these verses, what "open door" is Jesus providing for the Philadelphia believers?

Based on what we have previously studied about these letters, who were those of the synagogue of Satan?

Based on Romans 9-11 (take a few minutes to skim and summarize in class), what does it mean that those of the synagogue of Satan would bow at the Philadelphia believers' feet?

**Your confidence in Christ will make an eternal difference for you.**

In verse 10, Jesus says that He will keep the Philadelphia believers from the “hour of trial,” yet they still faced trials. What trials would Jesus keep them from experiencing? (Read 2 Peter 3:7 & 10 for a clue.)

How will the Philadelphia believers be recognized and rewarded (verses 11-12)?

What significance and meaning are found in these rewards?

What does it look like for a believer to “hold on to the crown” (verse 11) and “be victorious” (verse 12)?

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“To be confident in Christ simply means to live as if all the promises of His Word are true. He says the cross was where your sins were taken off your moral record. Live in the confidence. That is true. He says his Holy Spirit lives in you to empower you to live a changed life. Live in the confidence. That is true. He says He will never abandon or forsake you. When you’ve let Him down, He’s ready to restore fellowship with you. Live in the confidence. That is true. The Bible says He is attuned to everything going on in your life and knows your needs even before you discuss them with Him in prayer. Live in the confidence. That is true.”

Pastor Tom

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## Group Application Discussion

How is God currently “opening a door” (remember the first two questions in the guide) in Austin, TX?

What does it look like for Hillcrest to seize the opportunities discussed in the previous question?

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## **Personal Reflection and Application**

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In what area of your life do you need to be completely confident in Christ?