

A photograph of a closed metal roll-up door with horizontal slats. The door is covered in red, chalk-like text that reads "Sorry We're closed." in a casual, handwritten style. The text is centered on the door and spans across several slats.

Sorry
We're closed.

Caution Closed Doors Within
Luke 24:36-44

Learn to fail intelligently, Charles Kettering

- "Once you've failed analyze the problem and find out why, because each failure is one more step leading up to the cathedral of success. The only time you don't want to fail is the last time you try." Here are three suggestions for turning failure into success:
 - Honestly face defeat; never fake success.
 - Exploit the failure; don't waste it. Learn all you can from it; every bitter experience can teach us something.

Learn to fail intelligently, Charles Kettering

- Here are three suggestions for turning failure into success:
 - Never use failure as an excuse for not trying again.
 - You may not be able to reclaim the loss, undo the damage, or reverse the consequences, but you can make a new start--wiser, more sensitive, renewed by the Holy spirit, and more determined to do right.

Learn to fail intelligently, Charles Kettering

- But this is not what we do, is it? We tuck that failure, hurt, disappointment, fear into a dark place in our heart, close the door tight and put up a “***Do Not Ever Disturb Sign!***”
- We never really forget it
- It never goes away or stays silent
- It never heals, just sits there and festers as the years go by

Learn to fail intelligently, Charles Kettering

- But this is not what we do, is it? We tuck that failure, hurt, disappointment, fear into a dark place in our heart, close the door tight and put up a “*Do Not Ever Disturb Sign!*”
- We will never be good enough to overcome it
- Beat ourselves up because the consequences are always before our eyes

Learn to fail intelligently, Charles Kettering

- But this is not what we do, is it? We tuck that failure, hurt, disappointment, fear into a dark place in our heart, close the door tight and put up a “*Do Not Ever Disturb Sign!*”
- We may even think we deserve it
- There is always the fear that someone else will discover it

Learn to fail intelligently, Charles Kettering

- **John 14:27 NLT** “I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don’t be troubled or afraid.”
- This verse means much more than spiritual peace

Learn to fail intelligently, Charles Kettering

- **Philippians 4:6-7 NLT** 6 Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. 7 Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.
- Peace for every dark place you have hidden within your heart, mind, life

Luke 24:36-45 NIV

- 36 While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” 37 They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. 38 He said to them, “Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? 39 Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have.”

Luke 24:36-45 NIV

- 40 When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. 41 And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, “Do you have anything here to eat?” 42 They gave him a piece of broiled fish, 43 and he took it and ate it in their presence.

Luke 24:36-45 NIV

- 44 He said to them, “This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.” 45 Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures.

I've been looking at objects associated with the resurrection of Jesus the past couple weeks

- There was the tomb, stone and today it is the door
- We know the women at the tomb have been given the message of the resurrection
- Jesus has appeared to Mary Magdalen, Peter and the two men on the road to Emmaus

I've been looking at objects associated with the resurrection of Jesus the past couple weeks

- **John 20:19 NLT** 19 That Sunday evening the disciples were meeting behind locked doors because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders.
- The way John phrases it, he means more than just being afraid of the Jewish leaders
- He is describing the inner conflict of the disciples

I've been looking at objects associated with the resurrection of Jesus the past couple weeks

- Why were they afraid?
- The same reasons we are; fear of hurt, failure, unknown, left out...
- Not much has changed in their lives from last Friday - Why?

The disciples had separated themselves and their lives from the reality of Jesus' resurrection

- Jesus is on the loose and the disciples have bound themselves in fear
- Their doors of faith have been closed
- They left the empty tomb of Jesus and entered their own tombs of fear, doubt and blindness

The disciples had separated themselves and their lives from the reality of Jesus' resurrection

- They have shut their eyes to the reality that life is now different
 - Shut the words of Mary Magdalen and Peter out
 - Shut the Word of God out
 - Shut tight the door offering hope and peace
- Everything was now different, but it didn't feel or look different

The disciples had separated themselves and their lives from the reality of Jesus' resurrection

- The doors of these tombs are locked from the inside
- What are the closed places/doors in your life?
 - Is it fear, questions, disbelief or conditions we place on our faith?
 - Perhaps it is sorrow and loss or wounds so deep it does not seem worth the risk to step outside

The disciples had separated themselves and their lives from the reality of Jesus' resurrection

- What are the closed places/doors in your life?
 - Others may be anger and resentment
 - Maybe it is unbelief to the possibility of forgiving yourself and finding God's peace
 - Maybe it is sin in your life right now

The disciples had separated themselves and their lives from the reality of Jesus' resurrection

- Our doors do not stop or hinder Jesus, He is not limited by the doors in our lives
- But we must allow Him to clean, wash, make new the attitudes of our mind

The disciples had separated themselves and their lives from the reality of Jesus' resurrection

- **Ephesians 4:22-23 NLT** 22 You were taught, with regard to your former way of life (thinking), to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; 23 to be made new in the attitude of your minds

True peace is now available from Jesus because He has risen from the grave

- Not just peace with God which is marvelous, but peace with other and peace with myself
- Spurgeon, “About this Lord there were the air and style of one who had peace himself and loved to communicate it to others. The tone in which he spoke peace tended to create it. He was a peace-maker, and peace-giver.”

True peace is now available from Jesus because He has risen from the grave

- Jesus is not just saying peaceful words, but words that do something, words that do what they say
- When Jesus commands, forgives, promises – it happens
- I want you to realize and grasp this morning, that Jesus still does this today

True peace is now available from Jesus because He has risen from the grave

- Even though the disciples responded in fear, Jesus is gentle in demonstrating it is really Him
- He did not scold them, he just showed them his hands and feet
- He did not lay a guilt trip on them, he showed he had a physical body with flesh and bones
- Hear Jesus say to them, “I’m the same one who has eaten with you the past 3 ½ years.”

True peace is now available from Jesus because He has risen from the grave

- For you today with doors closed tight, hear Jesus say
 - See my love for you – hands and feet
 - See my understanding of your great hurts because I'm also acquainted with grief and sorrow too
 - I am the same one who forgave you and walked with you all these years, give me your closed doors that I might bring true peace into your life

Let Jesus breathe new life into your old ways

- **John 20:21 NIV** 22 And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit.”
- The first time God breathed is in Genesis to bring life to the body of Adam from clay
- Elijah had a vision in the Valley of Dry Bones where the breath of God brought life to the lifeless bones of Israel

Let Jesus breath new life into your old ways

- Now Jesus longs to breath life into your Valley of Dry Bones
- He came back from the dead so the Living One can breathe new life into His people
- The power to forgive sins is the power to give life and to make new the attitude of our minds

The strongest door in our hearts is the door of guilt

- It's been called the "revolving door of guilt"
- There are so many different kinds and forms of guilt
 - Parental guilt, relationship guilt, miscellaneous guilt
- Guilt is never from God, especially for a Christian
- Most of the time it is us and our refusal to forgive ourselves and turn it over to God or the finger pointing of others

The strongest door in our hearts is the door of guilt

- We practice the “if onlys”
- God has a wonderful word for guilt
 - Grace – undeserved or earned favor
- God gives us grace daily and we are instructed in His word to imitate Him
- So, I encourage you to open that door of guilt and throw in an abundance of “yourself grace”

The strongest door in our hearts is the door of guilt

- Every time guilt rears its ugly head sprinkle on God's grace and allow Him to rework the way you see yourself and think about yourself
- Fully accept God's forgiveness and allow Him to work in those areas where guilt resides

The strongest door in our hearts is the door of guilt

- **Philippians 4:6-7 NLT** 6 Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. 7 Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.

The strongest door in our hearts is the door of guilt

- God also gives us a door for our hearts and lives called salvation, it is an open door
- We accept this door when we accept Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior

The strongest door in our hearts is the door of guilt

- Blaise Pascal - “There is a God-shaped vacuum (hole) in the heart of each man which cannot be satisfied by any created thing but only by God the Creator, made know through Jesus Christ.”

The strongest door in our hearts is the door of guilt

- The only thing that fits that hole is the door that God provides
- It is an open door that leads us to the finished work of Jesus Christ on the cross
 - It leads us to empty tomb and the resurrection of Jesus
 - It allows us to hear the words of Jesus in **John 3:16-17**

The strongest door in our hearts is the door of guilt

- **John 3:16-17 NLT** 16 “For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. 17 God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through him.
- Have you received Jesus as your Lord and Savior?



Sorry
We're closed.

John 10:9 NIV I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved.