

SERMON SERIES: **HOME IMPROVEMENT**

TODAY'S MESSAGE: **Open Hearts**

TEXTS: **2 Corinthians 6:11-13**

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**MESSAGE PREFACE:** 2 Corinthians 6:11-13

- ♥ Paul states that he and his co-workers' hearts are \_\_\_\_\_ to the Corinthian believers.
- ♥ But the Corinthian believers' hearts were not-so-\_\_\_\_\_ to Paul and company.
- ♥ So, Paul encourages the Corinthian believers to reciprocate: "\_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_ also!"

**MESSAGE PREMISE:** It takes \_\_\_\_\_ to be an "open" church.

**IS YOUR "HEART-GATE" OPEN ...**

**1. ... TO THOSE \_\_\_\_\_ YOU?**

- a. Jesus' example:
  - ♥ Pity on a leper (Mark 1:40-41)
  - ♥ Love for a rich ruler (Mark 10:21)
  - ♥ Compassion for the crowds who came to Him (Mark 6:34; 8:1-3; Mat 9:35-38)
  - Jesus SAW → \_\_\_\_\_ → \_\_\_\_\_
  - ♥ He also welcomed people! (Luke 9:10-11; Rom 15:7)
- b. Jesus' teaching (Luke 10:25-37; Luke 15)
  - ♥ The "good neighbor" parable (Luke 10:25-37)
  - ♥ The "lost and found" parable (Luke 15:1-2)

- c. Bottom line: We can't \_\_\_\_\_ the lost until we \_\_\_\_\_ the lost. (2 Cor 5:14-21)

**2. ... TO THOSE \_\_\_\_\_ YOU?**

- a. The "New Commandment" (John 13:34-35)
  - ♥ "Love \_\_\_\_\_ as I have loved you."
- b. The first church of Christ (Acts 2:42-47)
  - ♥ Their "open hearts" included open eyes, open ears, open schedules, open wallets, open homes, open lives!
- c. Bottom line: We can't \_\_\_\_\_ the lost until we \_\_\_\_\_ the saved.

**3. ... TO THE \_\_\_\_\_ WHO \_\_\_\_\_ YOU?!**

- a. In Rev 3:14-22, Jesus appeals to a closed-hearted church
  - ♥ They thought they had it all, but they didn't even have \_\_\_\_\_!
  - ♥ He was on the \_\_\_\_\_ looking in!
- b. Bottom line: We can't \_\_\_\_\_ the lost or the saved, until we \_\_\_\_\_ the Savior! (1 John 4:19-5:2)

**MESSAGE APPEAL:** Five words from 2 Corinthians 7:2

"MAKE ROOM IN YOUR HEART ...

- ♥ for the \_\_\_\_\_!
- ♥ for the \_\_\_\_\_!
- ♥ and, for the \_\_\_\_\_!