

# Open and Closed Case

*Stuart Briscoe*

I. Introduction.

A. We have always been saved by grace and not by works.

II. The Spirit brought nothing but beauty from the conflict that happened between Barnabus and Paul in Acts.

A. We need people who are tender, and we need people who are tough.

B. God is so fantastic that he even blesses our mistakes.

III. God brought Paul to the place where he knew the secret of when to be closed and when to be open.

IV. God is working through open and closed situations.

A. We must learn the lesson of the closed door.

B. We can rejoice in closed door by at least knowing where God does not want us.

C. If God opens doors no one can shut them. If God closes doors no one can open them.

V. When Christ begins to open a heart, other hearts will open also.

A. Lydia opened her heart to the gospel.

B. Lydia's heart opened other hearts to plant the first church in Europe.

C. If we want to be used by God the easy way, open up to him.

**Applications questions:**

1. How can the situation between Paul and Barnabus give believers courage for the future?

---

---

2. When have you experienced closed doors that in hindsight protected you or opened up other opportunities?

---

---

3. How have you seen God's impact on a life impact other people positively?

---

---

