



# REFLECTIONS

November 24, 2013

**Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."**

*Joshua 1:9*

## Opened Doors

And then the door opened. It was time to stand up to see where the path through it led. The comfort he felt only a few moments before turned to trembling. Perspiration covered his brow as he approached the threshold. What challenges lay before him? Was he up to them? What about the place he would leave—and the people? Would they be all right? Would *he* be all right? He faced little trouble while watching over the sheep, so why should he agree to change his life for the new challenge that loomed beyond the open door. Moses knew his life would be different. He would be the man in charge, the people his responsibility.

Perhaps Moses had once aspired to be a leader, or maybe not. But either way, the door opened in front of him, and God was calling him to walk through it to do something new. He felt inadequate for the job and resistant to the responsibility. And Moses knew if he stepped through it, the door behind him would close. There would be no looking back. But beyond the doorway, the job was his; and besides, God did not take no for an answer.

Almost 4,000 years have passed since Moses saw his life change in front of a burning bush, but a similar scene might be playing out today for you and me. It probably is. Each day is a fresh beginning. Each day introduces a new chapter in the book of life we are writing of ourselves. Each chapter may not present a life changing event, but without question, each of us will face those times when a door before us will open and a new calling will lay beyond it. And when we walk through it the door behind will close.

Open doors become times of transition—those times between the entry into something new and the exit from what has been. They are times of rebirth. There is pain to endure while leaving the comfort of the womb. But the womb is only an incubator for the wonders of a new world that will sedate the pain with a prescription for opportunity.

On another day, the door opened to a young shepherd boy. Before him the angry eyes of a vast army led by a giant stared angrily into his. Goliath laughed when David offered to meet him head on. David stood and Goliath fell.

A door opened to Moses in the form of a burning bush, and another opened to David that looked like a giant. But God encouraged them to see the opportunity before them. Moses led his people to the Promised Land, and a giant fell at David's feet. And God is with each of us as we stand at the threshold of the doors He has opened.

May we have the courage to walk through them.

*You are the light of the world,*

*Richard +*

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