

January 13, 2022

The Lord wants you to experience real and abundant life:

Rev. 3:20 *Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person and they with Me.* (NIV)

As I have said before, I am a visual learner. I can have things explained to me and yet not get the concept, but when someone draws me a picture, I've got it! The sad thing about this verse is that it comes in the midst of Jesus speaking to the church at Laodicea. He had drawn them a picture through words of where they were spiritually. In fact, just read this portion of the passage and see if it doesn't paint a picture for you: **Rev. 3:15-19** *I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of My mouth. You say, 'I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.' But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked. I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see. Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest and repent.* (NIV)

Now these words alone should cause us to shudder. The LORD was telling this church that they were nowhere near where He would want them to be. And then He speaks today's verse with my picture: the picture is that He is standing 'outside' the door, wanting to come in. And He is knocking on the door. Unfortunately, there are many churches that have the name of Jesus, but not the presence of Jesus. They talk about Him, but they don't have fellowship with Him. He is standing outside wanting to come in, but He will not until He is invited. There are so many religious people who talk about Jesus, but don't know Him. They believe He is real, but it stops there. No wonder there will be so many who stand before Him someday and say "**Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name and in Your name drive out demons and, in Your name, perform many miracles?**" Then I will tell them plainly, "**I never knew you. Away from Me, you evildoers!**" - **Matt. 7:22-23** (NIV) Now that is a picture I would never want to see!

Dear LORD, help us to realize that the only real life that we can have, is when we invite You into our lives to stay! In Jesus Name, Amen