



# OPEN DOOR CHRISTIAN CHURCH

## Mid Week Message

*Gather... Connect... Grow... Impact!*

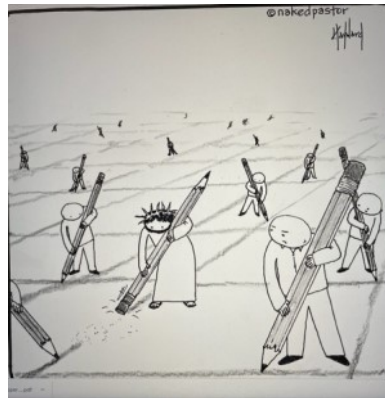
MARCH 24, 2022

### Our Focus: Three Commands of Jesus

Jesus' teachings fell on the ears of three groups of people:

1. The Jews who were in good standing with the faith,
2. The Jews who fell out favor with the faith leaders and became outcasts,
3. The Gentiles who were the original outcasts (anyone who was not a part of the Jewish faith).

Jesus' effort was to erase the lines that divided the three groups and create one community where all are accepted, loved unconditionally, understood their value, and empowered to be a part of the efforts to build God's Kingdom. In fact, in the Kingdom of God, there are no lines drawn that divide, which is why I like this picture drawn by David Hayward:



If you read closely enough, you will realize that most of the words and acts of compassion by Jesus were given to the second and third groups (who ended up following him and becoming his disciples). Most of the harsh words ("Not everyone who says, 'Lord, Lord' will enter the Kingdom") were aimed toward the first group who took it upon themselves to act FOR God instead of act LIKE God.

As Disciples of Jesus our role is to follow his commands and not act on our own biases. Our focus at Open Door Christian Church is to fulfill three commands Jesus made to his disciples. I will break down each command in future articles. Until then, look them up and read them as though you are the disciple Jesus is commanding. What does each command require of you to fulfill it?

Here are the three commands:

- Matthew 28:16-20 – Defines our purpose
- Luke 14:15-23 – Defines our process
- John 13:12-20, 34-35 – Defines our behavior

See you Sunday,

*Danny*