

An aerial photograph of a dense city skyline, likely Chicago, with numerous skyscrapers and buildings. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. Two thin white horizontal lines are positioned above and below the main title text.

THE TEST OF SPIRITUAL OPENNESS

CHICAGO TABERNACLE

I am the LORD your God, who brought you up out of Egypt.
Open wide your mouth and I will fill it.

Psalms 81:10

CHICAGO TABERNACLE

¹¹We have spoken freely to you, Corinthians, and opened wide our hearts to you. ¹²We are not withholding our affection from you, but you are withholding yours from us. ¹³As a fair exchange—I speak as to my children—open wide your hearts also. ¹⁴Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness? ¹⁵What harmony is there between Christ and Belial? Or what does a believer have in common with an unbeliever? ¹⁶What agreement is there between the temple of God and idols? For we are the temple of the living God. As God has said: “I will live with them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they will be my people.”

2 Corinthians 6:11-16

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He delivers us to fill us, but we have to be open.

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Definition Of Defensiveness

Defensiveness is being excessively concerned with guarding against the real or imagined threat of criticism, injury to one's ego, or exposure of one's shortcomings.

Definition Of Openness

Openness is allowing God access or passage to our heart,
not closed or blocked up.

Openness is Hunger

“I am the Lord your God, who brought you up out of Egypt.
Open wide your mouth and I will fill it.”

Psalms 81:10

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God has WONDERFUL things that He wants to fill us with!

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Openness is Connection

“We have spoken freely to you, Corinthians, and opened wide our hearts to you. We are not withholding our affection from you, but you are withholding yours from us. As a fair exchange - I speak as to my children - open wide your hearts also.”

2 Corinthians 6:11-13

Openness is Connection

Openness means that we are truly connected in all of the God-ordained relationships in our lives.

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Openness is Separation

¹⁴Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness? ¹⁵What harmony is there between Christ and Belial? Or what does a believer have in common with an unbeliever? ¹⁶What agreement is there between the temple of God and idols? For we are the temple of the living God. As God has said: “I will live with them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they will be my people.”

2 Corinthians 6:14-16