

6<sup>th</sup> June 2025

## Doors

**"The door is there, and the key is in your hand."**

Jiddu Krishnamurti, *quoted in "Perfecting Ourselves" by Aaron Hoopes*

Browsing the gift shop of Edinburgh's Portrait Gallery, I came across a series of cards which had different doors on the front: a church; a stately home; an Edinburgh house; a castle. Inside, each card was blank, but those attractive doors did their job! I bought several of the cards!

It's not surprising that doors have been used as metaphors since someone decided that a door was a better way of coming and going than rolling a stone away from a cave entrance. And I can do it too!

Jesus, of course, affirmed "I am the Door" – a powerful metaphor indeed! Helen Keller wrote in *We Bereaved* in 1929: "When one door of happiness closes, another opens; but often we look so long at the closed door that we do not see the one which has been opened for us." And that's as true now in bereavement as it was nearly a hundred years ago.

Jiddu Krishnamurti, a twentieth century Indian philosopher and spiritual teacher, gives us the quote above, the full context of which is: "In oneself lies the whole world – and if you know how to look and learn, the door is there, and the key is in your hand. Nobody on earth can give you either the key or the door to open, except yourself." So, give thought to this truth: If there's door to open to the whole world of a new future, you are the only person who can open that door.

Choosing a door and deciding if and when to go through it really matters. But the opening of that door can also reveal unexpected, un-dreamed of, even incredible things. The American motivational speaker, Leo Buscaglia, in an interview for *A Magazine of People and Possibilities* in 1998, said this: "A life of love is one of continual growth, where the doors and windows of experience are always open to the wonder and magic that life offers. To love is to risk living fully."

"Doors and windows" ... "always open to the wonder and magic life offers." That's why I gave my wife one of the Portrait Gallery's "door cards" for our Wedding Anniversary yesterday. For, in a life of love, even after fifty-one years of marriage, there are still doors we can go through to reveal more wonders and magic than we could ever imagine.

### A prayer for today

*Living God, I may go through a new door, but I never leave your Love behind. Amen*