



# PHARISEE UNIVERSITY

OPEN HANDS  
OR CLOSED

## VERSES:

Luke 18:9-14  
Psalms 104:14-15  
John 1:1  
Jeremiah 17:9  
Genesis 1:1  
Matthew 1:23  
Romans 10:9  
2 Timothy 3:16-17  
John 8  
John 16:13  
Psalms 119:11  
1 Corinthians 8:1-12  
Colosians 2:20-21  
Matthew 15:8-9  
1 Corinthians 10:31  
John 21:25  
Colosians 1:24-27  
Numbers 21:9  
John 3:14-15  
Deuteronomy 18:15  
John 1:45  
Daniel 12:8-9  
Philippians 3:4-8

## FUTURE EVENTS:

### VOLUNTEER TRAINING WORKSHOPS

TODAY 1-2p OR  
Wed. June 17, 6-7p  
Find out which areas  
volunteers are needed  
around ECC!

### PLANTING ROOTS

Learn more about our  
Planting Roots Journey  
by picking up a journey  
packet in the lounge  
or by going to  
[elementroots.org](http://elementroots.org)

[www.ourelement.org](http://www.ourelement.org)

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

**Luke: 18:14 - "I tell you this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other, for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted."**

## INTRODUCTION

The scriptures present believers with a great volume of information to consider. Some issues the Bible is firm and others are left to the interpretation of the reader; the former are called closed handed issues and the latter are called open handed issues.

## DISCUSSION

What things are you dogmatic about? (this doesn't refer just to the bible, this could be the your favorite hockey team to your favorite ice cream).

How do you treat people who disagree with your dogmatic idea(s)?

## EXPLANATION

What Biblical issues do you consider closed issues?

What Biblical issues do you consider to be open handed issues?

Have you ever changed your mind about the nature of an issue, and what caused the change?

## APPLICATION - Read John 16:12-15

The Christ follower is never supposed to interpret the scripture(s) apart from the loving guidance of the Holy Spirit. What does John mean in John 16:13 about the Spirit of truth and seeking God in His Word?

What happens when we are dogmatic about scripture without being obedient to scripture?

## MISSION

Think about one of Christianity's most sacred and closed handed issue, the Gospel and the Great Commission to preach the gospel; now examine your approach to it.

Do you agree that it is closed?

Do you understand the doctrine behind it?

Are you, or have you been, obedient to it?

What does that look like?

