

# Opportunity Knocks



By Arthur Navarrette  
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Welcome to the January edition and the start of the New Year! This article serves as both the New Year and Christmas message, as the same magazine goes out to two groups—Group A and Group B. As part of both groups, I have the privilege of receiving it twice (a writer's perk!). This is always the hardest article for me to write because it's deeply personal, and I strive to respect those who may feel differently.

For those who know me, you know I value people and consider every job we take on a privilege. One guiding principle in my work is this: if I wouldn't do it in my yard, I won't do it in yours. It's a simple rule I wish more professionals, regardless of trade, would follow.

My faith, which I've held since I was a teenager, has taught me that God values people above all else. This truth has shaped my heart and continues to guide how I live and work. I encourage my team to prioritize valuing our clients just as much as the work itself. This belief stems from my personal understanding of a God who cherishes each of us and desires a relationship with us.

What a profound way to begin the year—being aware of God's love not just intellectually, but feeling it deeply in our hearts. Imagine the mountains we could climb if we embraced that

truth, instead of being intimidated by them. It's like the keel of a sailboat: when the winds threaten to tip it over, it remains steady, and those same winds propel it forward. I hope this for all of us—that we are grounded in the One who helps us overcome trials and find victory, even when others think we're sinking.

The title "Opportunity Knocks" reflects this truth and how it has worked through my life. The opportunities I have had as a newlywed, family man, business owner, grandfather, and husband to my beloved wife of 42 years have taught me so much. One of the greatest joys Lisa and I now have is helping our daughters with our grandkids. It's a gift we never imagined. We were young parents and made our share of mistakes, so being able to redeem some of those experiences through our grandchildren is incredibly meaningful.

In this season of life, being a consistent representative of God's love feels less challenging than in earlier years. I'm still growing, and I doubt I'll ever fully "arrive," but I continue pressing forward, learning more each day about God's incredible love for us.

Looking back, I can see how God has orchestrated every part of my life to shape who I am today. Life hasn't always been easy, but the difficulties have driven me to seek God's guidance instead of relying on my own strength. He provides the resources we need, often through others, and reminds us to lean into Him through prayer, scripture, and trust. Life's challenges teach us about our limitations and our need for His intervention.

As we move through the seasons of life, our values shift. What seemed important in our youth often fades with maturity. At this stage, my greatest joys come from spending time with my family, loving my grandkids, and using the skills I've honed over 35 years in business to create beauty that blesses our clients long after we've completed a project.

The assurance of God's presence through life's storms is beyond words. When the challenges are overwhelming, His love is greater still. He is the Bridge over troubled waters, offering clarity, strength, and peace. When confusion arises, I've learned to seek solitude, pray, and turn to scripture. Though answers may not come immediately, the act of trusting Him builds my faith. There's no challenge so big that God and I cannot face it together.

This kind of confidence cannot be bought—it's a gift that comes from walking with God over decades. He is not only my Lord and Savior but also my closest friend. It has taken me 45 years of faith to get here, and I'm eager to see what the next years will bring.

Thank you for taking the time to read this article amidst your busy schedule. I also write a monthly devotional called Vida4U (Spanish for "Life for You") that addresses various topics like marriage, parenting, and life challenges—all from a Biblical perspective. If you're interested, feel free to email me at Arthur@executivecareinc.com to request it.

May God bless you this New Year, and may we remain mindful of the needs around us while praying for our leaders to act with wisdom in these challenging times.

I'll leave you with this benediction:

**Numbers 6:24-26**

**"The LORD bless you and keep you;**

**The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you;**

**The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace."**

Happy New Year, Arthur

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