

The Keys of the Kingdom

Welcome to Harvest Community Church

Pastor Marvin Nemitz

Series: The Kingdom of God

Text: Matthew 16:19

Every nation and society functions on laws and customs that make that nation **work**. The results are principles that serve as values, morals and standards that **govern** the citizen's relationship with authority and each other. Jesus called these laws and principles the **keys** of the Kingdom.

Many believers have knowledge of the Word of God but not a Kingdom **mindset**. His desire is to give us the Kingdom. You can have the keys to the car but you must know how to drive it.

Luke 12:32, Matthew 16:13-19

On the Rock of Peter's confession Jesus said He would build His **church**. The word in the Greek is "ecclesia". This is not a religious term but a **political** term. It literally means "**called out ones**". This referred to those that were chosen by the government to lead. **Isaiah 43:1**

Only Kingdom citizens have the keys. We are already in the Kingdom so we do not need the keys **to** the Kingdom but Keys **of** the Kingdom.

The key to Keys is not having keys. The key to the Keys is **Knowledge**, knowing what the keys are and how to use them. **Luke 8:10a, Hosea 4:6a**

The Kingdom of God is not a secret society, but the keys have to be **learned**.

Matthew 11:29-30

Jesus left no doubt that the Kingdom was supposed to work for His church just like it worked for Him. **John 14:12-14**

He reveals one Key in this passage, it is **prayer** or asking in His name. This is a wide open **promise**, but it is not a way to gratify our own selfish desires. We are to ask in His name according to His **will** and purpose.

The other Key that is revealed here is **faith**. This is trust and certainty in God's word, ways and promises.

Seven Principles of Keys

1. Keys represent **authority**. If you have keys to a place it means you have authority there.

Matthew 28:18-20, Matthew 18:18-19

Many believers have been taught that binding and loosing deals with **demons**, it does but not entirely. To "bind" means to lock or **prohibit**, to "loose" means to unlock or to **permit**. On earth **we** have dominion authority. Jesus is saying that what we allow heaven will allow, and what we prohibit heaven will prohibit. Whatever we allow in **society** heaven will not stop. We are responsible.

The **management** of earth is totally up to us. We are responsible for the evil and suffering in our world. God will not interfere unless we release Him to do so. God does not intervene because this is not His domain, it is ours. God will not step in unless He is **asked**.

2. Keys represent **access**. A key gives you instant access to everything that key opens. The secret is knowing what it opens. When you have the keys of the Kingdom you have no lack and no crisis because the King is greater than them all.

Psalm 84:11, Psalm 34:10, Proverbs 28:7

3. Keys represent **ownership**. If you have the Keys to the Kingdom you have everything you need. We never need to judge our life by our circumstances.
4. Keys represent **control**. If you have the key you control when it opens and closes and who gets access. Keys take control from the enemy or situations and put it in our hand.

1 Kings 17:12-16

5. Keys represent **authorization**. The Keys of the Kingdom are to the Christian what a badge is to a peace officer. Possession of the keys means that you are authorized to act in the name and authority of the one who owns the keys. He has given us the authority to act in His **name**, to influence heaven and earth and to make requests that are in accordance with His will and purpose.

6. Keys represent **power**. Keys give you **control**. We have power as kingdom citizens.

Acts 1:8

7. Keys represent **freedom**. Free to go in and out, free to lock or unlock, open or close. The keys give us freedom from **fear** and all other limiting emotions.

John 10:8-9, Psalm 46:1-3, John 8:31-32 If we hold to His teaching (the keys) the truth you know and live will set you free to live in peace and confidence.

Characteristics of Keys

- Keys are **laws**. They are fixed, reliable standards that never change and, when used correctly, **always** work.
- Keys are **principles** by which the Kingdom operates.
- Keys are **systems**, social, economic and educational. They work by obedience. Because of this, nothing outside the Kingdom can disrupt them.
- Keys activate **function**, like a car needs gasoline. Keys activate Heaven so we can enjoy our rights and privileges. **1 Timothy 6:17** The Keys help us enjoy all the blessings of God without measure.
- Keys initiate **action**, if you have them you must use them in order for something to happen. (Car can be tuned up and filled with gas if you do not turn the key you are better off walking.)
- Keys cannot be substituted by **feelings**, emotions, wishful thinking or manipulation. Everything in the Kingdom is **reversed** from the world's way. To receive you must give, instead of hate, love, instead of me first we are to put others first, we are to bless those who curse us. Many times the opposite nature of Kingdom keys makes it difficult for many to understand the Kingdom. **Mark 10:17-23**

Because of the fallen nature of human reasoning, the principles and keys of the Kingdom of God are completely foreign to the way we have been trained to think. For instance faith versus doubt.

We must realize that principles work but are not always understood.

Principles are established by the Creator.