

March 5, 2017
The K-E-Y-S of the Kingdom
Experiencing God: Unit 10 Days 4,5
Matthew 16:19,20

The keys belong to the K_____

- Jesus gave the keys of the kingdom to _____
 - This does not mean that Jesus was giving up o_____
 - This means that Jesus was giving Peter s_____ over His keys

- Jesus gave the keys to Peter
 1. Not because he was the g_____ of all the apostles (see Luke 22:24)
 2. But because of his c_____

The keys are e_____ to believers

- The kingdom of heaven
 - Understood by Jesus' audience to be the r_____ of God
 - Misunderstood by traditional Jews who thought their p_____ birth gained them entrance (Jesus corrected this error in John 3:3-5 when He stated that spiritual birth admits you)

- The word "keys" is used only six times in the N.T.
 1. Lk 11:52 – refers to entrance into spiritual k_____
 2. Rev 1:18 – Jesus possesses the keys of d_____ and Hades.
 3. Rev 3:7 – Jesus possessed the keys of D_____ which only He can use to open and shut a door.
 4. Rev 9:1, 20:1 – keys to the bottomless p_____.
 5. All references refer to either
 - Opening up so one can g_____ entrance
 - Not opening up so no one can gain entrance
 - Or both

●What did the apostles use to bring people into the kingdom of God? – the
g_____ (Rom 1:16, 1 Cor 15:1,2)

1. Why then did Jesus tell the apostles not to tell anyone that He was the Christ in Matt 16:20? – the gospel was not yet c_____
2. After Jesus rose from the dead, He entrusted all 500 f_____ with the keys (Matt 28:18-20).

●What effect would the preaching of the gospel have?

- B_____ (the word means to tie up) - if a person rejects the message
- F_____ (the word means to release or free) - if the a person accepts the message by f_____

●Verse 19 has been interpreted to mean that the one who has these keys has the power to forgive sins or not.

1. The Greek text DOES NOT say “whatever you bind on earth **will be bound** in heaven” as most English translations read. (this would mean that the binding in heaven f_____ the binding on earth)
2. The Greek text DOES say whatever you bind on earth **will have been bound** in heaven” as the updated NASB reads. This tense has a meaning!
 - a. First, it means that the binding declaration is simply a pronouncement of something that is ALREADY t_____ in heaven
 - b. Second, it means that someone else in heaven has already done the binding (_____)
3. Practically speaking, when a person gives the gospel they are declaring a person to be condemned (bound) by their sins unless they repent and trust Christ’s death, burial, and resurrection to save (loose or free) them from condemnation.
 - a. If a person rejects the gospel message – God in heaven has already declared them condemned (Jn 3:18).
 - b. If a person accepts the gospel message – God in heaven has already declared them saved from condemnation (Jn 3:16).
 - c. What we declare is simply a reflection of what God has already declared!

How are y_____ handling the keys?

- Are you p_____ for the lost around you?
- Are you taking o_____ to share?
 1. Do you need to be trained first before you share the gospel? Yes or No
 2. Training is d_____ what you've been taught (would you be open to a 7 week church-wide training emphasis?)

How are we as a church s_____ the gospel?

- The Great Commission was given to the church group not to the i_____. In other words, it cannot be fulfilled except by cooperation.
 - a. Are we going? How?
 - b. Are we baptizing? How?
 - c. Are we teaching? How?
- Are you cooperating? How?

The keys of the kingdom is a stewardship over the gospel message given to every believer and to every church.