

FINDING YOUR KEYS

KEYS TO THE KINGDOM

SPRING NEWSLETTER 2018

Spring has always been a very special time of the year in my life. Throughout my life big changes tend to happen during this season. One reason I believe spring is so special is because it is the time of year when we see the newness of life being reborn. The winter gray begins to fade, and the spring rains begin to turn the surface of the earth green and colorful with vegetation. The invisible attributes of God seen through Creation truly stand out during this vibrant time of year. The Pass-over (Easter) takes place just as spring begins. As a Christian, my faith is based upon the belief that Jesus Christ did indeed die on a Cross (Good Friday) and then rose on the third day (Resurrection Sunday).

It is no coincidence God chose the beginning of spring to coincide with the time He sent His only Son Jesus to be crucified and sacrificed for the sins of the world. It is at the Cross that newness of life begins for all who believe. It is at the Cross that we can be freed from our sins and stained past. It is at the Cross the blood of Christ ran to make us clean. Likewise, spring is a time when the rains come and wash the earth. It is a time when dry grounds, trees, and plants come out of their winter dormancy and begin to regrow. It is a time of new life. You might say Creation is “resurrected” when spring begins, just as the the Savior of the world was resurrected on the first day of the week. The Bible tells us that it is through Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, that all of Creation was made (see John 1:3). It is no wonder the Creation and the Creator resurrected at the same time of year.

Christ’s resurrection and the celebration of it year after year is the primary reason spring has become my favorite time of year. I also enjoy the rain and milder temperatures. It is during this season especially that I reflect on my faith, and therefore, I tend to find myself spiritually rejuvenated. Two years ago was a landmark spring, as I released my second book Breathe. Breathe is a book I had wanted to write for many years, so when the book was published it was a dream made alive. Today I find myself experiencing yet another landmark spring, releasing my third book Finding Your Keys. Finding Your Keys is a book I am very excited to share with you. This is by far the most difficult creative project I have ever worked on. It took about nine months to write and many hours of studying and preparing for each chapter.

However, God was faithful through the entire process of writing Finding Your Keys. Throughout the course of writing, it was incredible how God would send a friend, and sometimes even a stranger who had seen or read my work, to give a word of encouragement. While my motive for writing and filming is out of my devotion to God, and I’m not living to only hear the lauding of others, the timing of people telling me how much they enjoyed a “Word of the Week” video or one of my books or newsletters was just when I needed to hear it the most. Writing is hard work!

The inspiration for Finding Your Keys is from the Scripture where Jesus tells His disciples in Matthew 16:19 (NLT), “And I will give you the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven. Whatever you forbid on earth will be forbidden in Heaven, and whatever you permit on earth will be permitted in Heaven.” From this verse God impressed upon me what kind of authority Jesus gave us when He said this to His disciples. Jesus chose to use keys to illustrate a profound spiritual truth. In the material world, keys are what we use in order to lock and unlock doors. When we leave the house, we lock the door to keep intruders out. When we return home, we unlock the door so we can go back inside.

In the same way, Jesus has given us spiritual keys that connect heaven and earth. These keys are keys of authority. They have the power over spiritual forces that are subject to God. As His children and His ambassadors in this world, God desires to give us His kingdom! The Lord tells us in Luke 12:32 (NKJV), “Do not fear, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.” The keys of God’s kingdom are spiritual truths that can be found throughout the Bible. These keys, or eternal truths, are powerful. These keys can bring real life transformation when we take hold of them. When you begin to read the Word of God and get in agreement with what God says, all of the angels go to work. It is your faith that gets God and His heavenly army’s attention.

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When you believe, all things are possible. Your actions will follow what you truly believe. This is why the Apostle James wrote in James 2:17 (NIV), “Faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.” The way we grow our faith is by putting into action what we know Scripture says. This is where the keys of God’s kingdom unleash life-changing power. For instance, the key of kindness can unlock the door to better relationships with the people around you. If you have ever been around someone who is constantly rude and inconsiderate, you probably don’t enjoy their company. On the other hand, if you have ever been around someone who goes out of their way to help others and make them feel special, you enjoy experiencing the kindness of that person. The key of kindness, when put into action, not only makes others feel better about themselves, but it also makes you feel better.

Practicing kindness is something we all must work on. It is easy to be kind to others who are kind to you. However, it is much more challenging to be kind when someone is being rude towards you. When you act kind towards people who don’t deserve it, you are acting as God would act. Jesus tells us God is kind to us, even when we don’t deserve it. He says in Luke 6:35 (NASB), “For He Himself is kind to ungrateful and evil men.” This key can be a very difficult one to use at times. It is easy to be kind to people who are like-minded and agreeable. However, when you are engaging with people who have different views and different values than you this key can be powerful. Jesus promises that our reward will be “very great” when we are kind to our enemies.

Something supernatural happens when we are kind to our enemies. First of all, it opens the door for peace. In order for you to rise higher in life, there must be a certain level of peace in order for you to grow and become all God created you to be. In my own life, I have experienced this first hand. When I went on a rather lengthy book tour a few years ago, I met all sorts of people and personalities. I met people who loved God. I met people who did not know if there was a God. I met people who thought God was the tree outside. Not everyone was receptive to my Christian books about God’s goodness. I learned early on that I had to smile and be kind no matter how the person standing across the table spoke to me or reacted to my books. I admit it was (and still is) challenging to keep my cool when someone was rude!

One thing I learned from this experience is God’s Word never fails. I’ve learned sometimes God will allow people to come across our paths who reject us. He allows it because He wants us to be tested and strong in His Word. As time has gone on, being rejected for my work hasn’t been as such a big deal as it once was. If somebody does not like what I have written, I don’t take it personal. I know God has someone else who does appreciate the work God has given me. The key of kindness is only one of many keys God has given us to operate in His kingdom while still in this world. I use it as an example because it is a simple truth and also a great starting point for experiencing more of God.

The beauty of using the keys of God is they really do work! There is always a reward when we put into practice what Scripture has taught us. Eternal truths are keys that set heaven into motion on earth. When Jesus began doodling in the dirt when the adulterous woman was being brought before Him by the Pharisees and religious leaders, He was using His kingdom keys when He told them, “Let him who is without sin cast the first stone.” (John 8:7) Jesus had the keys of wisdom and knowledge. He knew how to shut the mouth of the religiously bound men. He understood the key of grace. He knew it wasn’t just this woman who had ever sinned, but everyone who was there that day. He knew what His kingdom above was like, and He showed the world what heavenly realities could be like here on the earth.

Bringing what is in Heaven down onto the earth is the good news of Jesus Christ. Heaven is full of healing. Heaven is full of mercy. Heaven is full of life and abundance. There is no sickness or death in heaven. There is no hate where God is, but rather, love. When people touched the robe of Jesus and were healed (Matthew 14:36), the presence of God and Heaven were dwelling fully in the Messiah. The power of the kingdom inside of Christ was emanating out of Him, so much so, that people who even touched the fringes of his robe were instantly healed. Heaven above encountered and overtook fallen

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earth when Jesus came to redeem us.

To take it one step further, Jesus empowered us – His church – to imitate and even supersede the works which He did! He calls us even higher when He tells His disciples in John 14:12 (NLT), “I tell you the truth, anyone who believes in Me will do the same works I have done, and even greater works, because I am going to be with the Father.” So what works exactly did Jesus do? He healed many who were sick, forgave all who came to Him, multiplied food and fed the hungry, and even walked on water! As the Creator living in a flesh and bone body, there was no limit to what Jesus had authority to do. In the same way, when we begin thinking kingdom minded and take hold of the keys of heaven, we will see more of the supernatural here in this world.

The supernatural here is only natural in heaven. People being restored and whole is natural in heaven. People suddenly breaking free from addiction and overcoming illnesses in this world is supernatural. Endless resources and free provision are natural in heaven. Seeing an abundance when there seems to only be a limited supply and scarcity in this world is supernatural. When Jesus rose people from the dead, like with Lazarus, He didn’t do it because He wanted to test His power. He knew what was normal where He was from. Heaven was His house. There are no dead people in Heaven. He did it because he both loved Lazarus and He wanted people to see He truly was the Son of God sent from Heaven.

As a believer, your life is stored up in Heaven with Christ. This can be a difficult concept to understand from a carnal mindset – but from a spiritual mindset, it makes sense as a Christian. When you are Christian, you are defined by who God says you are. Stepping into your destiny and becoming who God created you to be is heaven working itself out of you into this world. I’ve seen God radically transform people who were strung out on drugs and addiction and become people who serve the Lord, going on mission trips, and reaching others with the love of God in their community. This reformation is nothing other than the kingdom of God taking over that person’s life.

No matter where you are in your faith and in your walk with God, He wants to meet you where you are. When you walk closely with Him, that is when things will begin to change. You cannot will God’s kingdom to operate in your life. It is a free gift. You cannot buy God’s kingdom. It is inherited through faith in Christ. The keys to this eternal kingdom are already handed over to you when you make Jesus the Lord of your life. These keys symbolize authority. These keys can open wide heaven’s gates. Likewise, these keys can lock shut the gates of hell. Whatever you bind on earth, will be bound in heaven. Whatever you loose on earth, will be loosed in heaven.

I believe we are entering a season of the supernatural. We are entering a time when God is going to show up and show out in ways we never thought possible. Supernatural breakthroughs, unexplainable “coincidences”, and the right people are coming into your life by the invisible hand of God. The Lord is highlighting you, promoting you, and making your wrongs right. Your hard work and trust in God is being measured, then pressed down and shaken together, and poured out as an overflowing blessing from your Heavenly Father. Keep pressing forward, doing what you know to do, and God is going to propel you ahead at just the right time. Just as a gust of wind can pick up a child’s kite off the ground and cause it to soar, so God is blowing the supernatural winds of change to take you higher and cause you to soar in His blessings. As you get in agreement with God’s Word, I pray God reveals the authority you have as a child of His kingdom.

In closing, if you are subscribed to my newsletters but do not receive weekly e-mails from me, I encourage you to go to www.McKadeMarshall.com and submit your e-mail address on the contact page. Every Sunday I e-mail hundreds of subscribers a 15 to 20 minute video called “Word of the Week” with an inspiring Christian message. I do not want you to miss out on these weekly videos so make sure you are signed up to receive “Word of the Week” in your e-mail inbox every Sunday!

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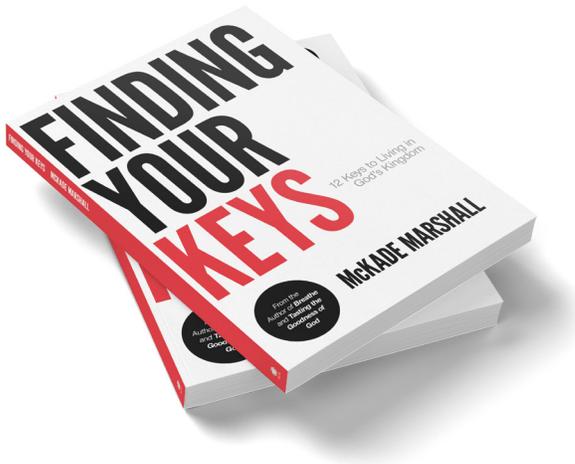
I declare this spring God is giving you the keys to the kingdom empowering you to experience more breakthroughs. God is causing your light to shine in such a way that it causes those around you to give glory to God. For any time you experience rejection, God is preparing a comeback and a victory. Just as Jesus was rejected and given over to death by men, He had His comeback when God raised Him from the dead on the third day. Any area of life you may have suffered loss, God is going to replace with something bigger, something better, and something more rewarding. With His help, there is nothing you cannot achieve! I love you, and I am praying for you.

Your brother in Christ,



McKade Marshall

Author of "Finding Your Keys", "Breathe" and "Tasting the Goodness of God"



To order my new book "Finding Your Keys", go to www.mckademarshall.com. If you have any questions or ever need someone to pray for you, feel free to visit my website. There you can submit prayer requests, sign up for and read quarterly newsletters, watch my latest YouTube videos, buy products, make donations, and more.

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