



Take My Keys!

SERMON NOTES AND DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Matthew 16:13-19

¹³ When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say the Son of Man is?”

¹⁴ They replied, “Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”

¹⁵ “But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am?”

¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”

¹⁷ Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”

Luke 22:24–34 (NIV)

²⁴ A dispute also arose among them as to which of them was considered to be greatest. ²⁵ Jesus said to them, “The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those who exercise authority over them call themselves Benefactors. ²⁶ But you are not to be like that. Instead, the greatest among you should be like the youngest, and the one who rules like the one who serves. ²⁷ For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who is at the table? But I am among you as one who serves. ²⁸ You are those who have stood by me in my trials. ²⁹ And I confer on you a kingdom, just as my Father conferred one on me, ³⁰ so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and sit on thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

³¹ “Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift all of you as wheat. ³² But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers.”

³³ But he replied, “Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death.”

³⁴ Jesus answered, “I tell you, Peter, before the rooster crows today, you will deny three times that you know me.”

John 21:15–19 (NIV)

¹⁵ When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?”

“Yes, Lord,” he said, “you know that I love you.”

Jesus said, “Feed my lambs.”

¹⁶ Again Jesus said, “Simon son of John, do you love me?”

He answered, “Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.”

Jesus said, “Take care of my sheep.”

¹⁷ The third time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?”

Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, “Do you love me?” He said, “Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you.”

Jesus said, “Feed my sheep. ¹⁸Very truly I tell you, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go.” ¹⁹Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, “Follow me!”

Sermon Outline

Introduction

Challenge: We need to give the “Keys of Responsibility and Leadership” to younger generations.

Let’s Follow Jesus in Empowering Others for Service

1. He Gives us the Keys

2. He Gives us the Keys knowing sometimes we will stumble and fall

- a. Failing is the unavoidable**
- b. Failure is not an event, it is an evaluation of an attempt**
- c. Failure is not the enemy, it is the necessary process of learning to excel**
- d. Failing is part of growing**

3. He Gives us the Keys to Share in His Power

Embrace the Adventure

- 1. Who should be given the keys?**
- 2. Exciting Reports**
- 3. Everyone has a Gift**

Conclusion

- 1. The Deeper Joy of Giving the Keys**

Discussion Questions

Sharing Life Together

- 1. Who has been a person in your life that has believed in you?**
- 2. Share about a time when you were given “keys of responsibility” and you recognized it as someone was trusting you with awesome power.**

Reflecting on the Message Together

- 1. Why do you think younger people are drawn to Christian communities who empower them for service?**
- 2. What do you think are going to be some of the challenges of giving younger people in our church family keys of responsibility?**
- 3. What do you think are key features of doing a good job in giving people “keys of responsibility?”**
- 4. What do you think are things we are going to need to implement or improve as a church in order to excel at practicing keychain leadership?**
- 5. How did God speak into your life through this message?**

Meditating on the Scriptures

- 1. Reread Matthew 16:13-19. Why do you think Jesus gives His disciples the keys of the Kingdom?**
- 2. The reason Peter was able to proclaim that Jesus was the Christ is because the Father revealed it to Him. God’s work was the necessary step for Jesus to let Peter know that Jesus was going to give to His disciples the “keys to the Kingdom.” What are lessons we can learn about understanding leadership and power in the family of God?**
- 3. Reread Luke 22:24-34. How ready did the disciples appear to be for taking the keys from Jesus? Give reasons for your answers.**
- 4. In Luke 22: 31-32 we hear Jesus say to Peter: “Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift all of you as wheat. ³² But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers.”**

How does this Scripture help give assurance in the face of evil?

What do we do with the fact that Satan had to ask permission to “sift” the disciples and God allowed it to happen?

- 5. What stood out to you about the process Jesus used in reinstating Peter into leading His mission?**