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## A Heart Set Free



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### THE KEYS TO THE KINGDOM

#### Keys? Who needs them?

*Evidently, Jesus believes that we need keys. Apparently, knowing Him by faith is not enough! When Peter recognized Him as the long-awaited Messiah, Jesus rejoiced over the revelation Peter received (Matthew 16). Then, He immediately added "I've got some keys you're going to need!" OK, that's a paraphrase, but the meaning is still true: If we want to see our lives set free, then we had better find out what those keys are and start using them!*

See [Keys to the Kingdom](#) at our website to read the whole article.

#### What Is the Kingdom?

Since keys are for access and entry, to use them we will need to know what they enable us to explore and experience. ***It is nothing less than God's reign on earth!*** The Kingdom of God is the "king's domain" (His realm) and/or the "king's dominion" (His rule). Either way it, Paul tells us that this kingdom is an ever-present reality of "righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit" right here on earth (Romans 14:17).



God's Kingdom on Earth Is Out  
of this World

**1) Righteousness.** What is meant here is more than right standing with God, though that is a necessary beginning. The vast righteousness of the kingdom includes everything that is right (good, beautiful and true) which flows from God: lunch with a friend is righteousness; doing a job well is righteousness; playing with puppies and babies is righteousness; enjoying a sunset or a good book is righteousness. It certainly isn't unrighteousness! In this wider sense righteousness is anything the Holy Spirit would lead you into doing or appreciating. ***Such righteousness is the very life of heaven on earth.***

**2) Peace.** Likewise the peace of the Kingdom is vast. It is not like that of this world-which is so easily lost. The peace of this Kingdom is deep and everlasting--nothing on earth can shake it; nothing on earth can take it from you.

**3) Joy.** Earth's joys are fleeting, but the joy of this Kingdom is available to everyone at any moment for it proceeds from the glad-hearted God who wants to share His joy with us.

**4) Holy Spirit.** And who can say enough about the Holy Spirit? He is the very presence and power of Jesus on earth with us. ***This is what the Kingdom is "made of"!***

**Anybody want more?** If these great things were being offered "buy 1 get 1 free" on the other side of town, we'd be in a race to get there. But God is giving them away for free anywhere, anytime. ***You just have to use the keys...***

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## The Really Big Key

The Kingdom of God is a realm that requires childlike trust and cleanness of spirit. If all of these highly desirable things are already within us and are all around us, ***what is keeping us locked out?***



Wide Open to the Kingdom!

According to Jesus, conversion in the form of the new birth gets us into heaven (John 3:16); becoming as little children gets us into the kingdom. Note how stringent the warning is: unless we are converted and become as little children we will by no means enter into this kingdom. ***The big "key" is becoming like a little child!***

**And He called a little child to Himself and put him in the midst of them, And said, Truly I say to you, unless you repent (change, turn about) and become like little children [trusting, lowly, loving, forgiving], you can never enter the kingdom of heaven [at all].**  
Matthew 18:2-3 AMP

**Jesus is not speaking about entry into heaven here.** In Matthew's gospel the Kingdom of God on earth is usually referred to as the Kingdom of Heaven. To this day little children enter the Kingdom and show forth its fruit far better than most believers (Matthew 19:14). And this is

true of little children no matter what the religion of their parents. In fact most little children haven't even been converted (know and believe in the King) and yet they still live in the Kingdom. ***What is it about little children?***

**Jesus wasn't pointing to a little child "in the flesh"** for an example, but one that was in the right spirit. All such children exemplify the life of the Kingdom (Mark 10:14) better than most believers--regardless of the religion of their parents. They are humble, un-selfconscious, willingly dependent for all provision upon their parents and freely love the people they meet. They are also teachable, fearless explorers of their worlds, and live with openness and transparency in the present moment.

**Most importantly, if anything troubles or hurts them** they run to their parents, are quickly set right, and easily let go. In fact once hurts begin to accumulate and they start carrying yesterday (and its pains) with them, they become self-protective, leave childhood behind and become like us! ***Jesus says that self-protectiveness is guaranteed to rob us of life.***

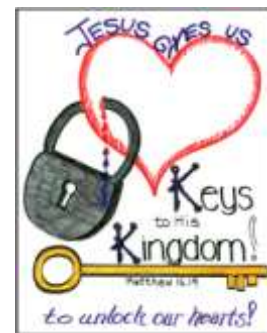
**True [Spiritual Healing](#) means recovering child-like freedom of heart.**

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## **Four Necessary Keys**

We lock ourselves up in a dungeon of pain and bondage. Due to an accumulation of life's hurts that we did not release, we left child-likeness behind by binding the pains and injustices of the past to ourselves.

**Un-forgiveness is the number one block** to healing and to the Kingdom's peace and power. It leads to unanswered prayer, un-received mercy, hardness of heart, spiritual bondage and painful inner torment.



[Jesus Gives Us Keys to Unlock Our Hearts](#)

**Whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone; so that your Father, who is in heaven, may also forgive you your transgressions. But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father in heaven forgive your transgressions. Mark 11:25-26**  
WEB

**And in wrath his master turned him over to the torturers (the jailers), till he should pay all that he owed. So also My heavenly Father will deal with every one of you if you do not freely forgive your brother from your heart his offenses. Matthew 18:34-35 AMP**

**Hidden and unrecognized unbelief** can also bar our entry into the Kingdom, because it "hardens" the heart before God as powerfully as un-forgiveness does.

**Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to**

**fall away from the living God... So we see that they were unable to enter because of unbelief.** Hebrews 3:12, 19

**I have learned to concentrate on four main keys.** Using these daily is making me more like childlike on the inside. And that has been enabling me to enter the Kingdom's peace and joy more often!

**1) Confess, repent of recognized sin** and receive full forgiveness. This means receiving God's grace so fully that you completely forgive yourself as well.

**2) Confess, repent of un-forgiveness** and release full forgiveness towards God, self or others--until no pain is left in the memories.

**3) Confess, repent of unbelief** and believe the truth with a full heart of faith, especially the truth of His promise to make all things work for your good. Believe it so thoroughly that you have no complaints left!

**4) Use the "key of knowledge"** (Luke 11:52): discerning the spirits and discerning truth will help you know which of the other three keys to use in confusing situations. Ask for the Holy Spirit to help you discern what's going on and what you need to do to re-gain your freedom.

**Because God gives us sovereignty over our hearts,** it is not what happened to us that is the real issue. It is how we have reacted to hurt and injustice that determines our life, our peace and our emotional freedom. We encourage you to use the keys to forgive others, to fully accept yourself and to enthusiastically believe for God's redemptive work in your life.

*True [Spiritual Healing](#) means recovering child-like freedom of heart.*

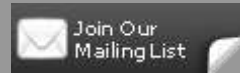
## HEALING STREAMS MINISTRY

Healing Streams is a ministry of liberation and transformation. Through Biblical teaching we help people find freedom from the negative emotions that rob inner peace and damage health. This mending of the emotional life actually heals many diseases of the body and releases believers to live more fully for the Lord. People often say that they are getting their life back! And that they have received "tools" for keeping their hearts free...

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#)



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### **For those who really want to get their hearts set free...**

We have five books at Amazon (paperback and Kindle editions): The Missing Peace, Matters of the Heart, An Illustrated Guide to the Spirit Life, Salvation Basics and Rescued from Hell, which tells the incredible story of my late 1960s journey into insanity and the full restoration and healing Jesus brought me into over a decade later. [Books at Amazon](#)



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