

# Morning Lesson

## KEYS OF THE KINGDOM

**Matt. 16:18, 19**

### INTRO:

1. Matthew is the kingdom book. (33 times)
2. The Jews of Jesus' day had a difficult time appreciating the nature of the kingdom.  
**John 6:15; John 18:36**
3. It is difficult for people today to appreciate the nature of the kingdom.
4. "Keys" is a figure of speech showing power over a thing. **Rev. 1:18**

### I. IMPORTANCE OF THE KINGDOM.

- A. God had prophets predicting it. **Dan. 2:44**
- B. So important that John preached it. **Matt. 3:1, 2**
- C. So important that Jesus said...**Matt. 6:33**
- D. Jesus talked about seeing the kingdom. **John 3:1-3**
- E. Paul listed the blessings in the kingdom. **Col. 1:13, 14**

### II. CAN'T GET IN UNLESS THE DOORS ARE OPENED

### III. WHAT DID THE KEYS OPEN?

- A. There are two phases of the kingdom. **Matt. 6:10; 2 Pet. 1:11**
- B. The keys to the present phase.
  1. The apostles were to wait for power. **Luke 24:46-49; Acts 1:8**
  2. That power came on Pentecost. **Acts 2:1-4**
  3. Peter used the keys. **Acts 2:38**
- C. Peter opened the door for the Gentiles. **Acts 15:7-9**
- D. Peter opened the door for backsliders. **Acts 8:13, 22**
- E. Peter opened the door to the eternal kingdom.  
**2 Pet. 1:5-11**

### CONC:

1. The kingdom is the spiritual domain where men serve God. **Heb. 12:28**
2. The door is open to all.