



MASTER KEYS TO SUCCESS AND SIGNIFICANCE IN LIFE AND MINISTRY

1 PETER 2:4-5 God's Word Translation

"You are coming to Christ, the living stone who was rejected by humans but was chosen as precious by God. {5} You come to him as living stones, a spiritual house that is being built into a holy priesthood. So offer spiritual sacrifices that God accepts through Jesus Christ."

INTRODUCTION

Unlocking the Qualities of a Living Stone

As living stones, we must discover and develop the keys that will unlock those qualities in ourselves that are necessary for building a spiritual house.



A key is designed to open a lock. If the key fits, the lock opens. If the key does not fit, the lock will not open. Some keys, however, are designed to fit many locks. These are called master keys. They are given to people in authority, so they can gain entrance into many doors. The Lord Jesus Christ, has given us master keys to open many doors to success and significance in life and ministry.

In the series that follows, we will look at four of these master keys. If you will submit yourself to God and allow these keys to become part of your life, you will come to know the true meaning of success and significance in life and ministry! You will truly become a living stone in God's spiritual house.

Our choices in life always affect and influence others. Will our choices help or hinder them... bless or injure them? Every leader's choices always ought to be Romans 12:1-3 choices.

ROMANS 12:1-3 NKJV

“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. {2} And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. {3} For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.”

God’s will is good, pleasing and perfect. When our decisions and actions are conformed to God’s will, they will have a positive effect. They will be like seeds planted into the lives of those around us. They will cause a great harvest of success and significance, proving that we are in the perfect will of God!

To be in the perfect will of God, we must adjust our thinking to fit the Word of God and the prompting of the Holy Spirit. We all see life in certain ways. We are influenced by family and friends, by our cultures, by the education we receive (especially by our teachers and mentors) and by our experiences. The challenge for us is to go beyond these influences.

In these lessons, we will focus on four [Master Keys to Success and Significance in Life and Ministry](#). Each Master Key is designed by God to help us to answer the following questions:

- Is what we believe pleasing to God?
To know this, we must find out what is culturally, socially and morally correct in God’s Kingdom.
- How do we feel about other people? Are we prejudice?
There are no racial, social, cultural or national exclusions in God’s family. The Bible declares that all nations will worship Him together as one family.
- Is what we believe right or wrong?
We are imperfect human beings. Our attitudes and understanding are limited by our fallen, sinful natures. We need to apply **Biblical understanding** to how we think.

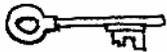
PROVERBS 4:5-9 International Children's Bible

“Get wisdom and understanding. Don't forget or ignore my words. {6} Use wisdom, and it will take care of you. Love wisdom, and it will keep you safe. {7} Wisdom is the most important thing. So get wisdom. If it costs everything you have, get understanding. {8} Believe in the value of wisdom, and it will make you great. Use it, and it will bring honor to you. {9} Like flowers in your hair, it will beautify your life. Like a crown, it will make you look beautiful.””

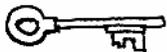
God wants us to have wisdom and understanding in the following four areas of life. Here are the four Master Keys:

**Master Key #1:**

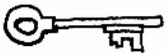
Uncompromising love for the people God gives us

**Master Key #2:**

Uncompromising Integrity in Leadership

**Master Key #3:**

Uncompromising Integrity in Life

**Master Key #4:**

Living with Great Expectation

We are living stones, chosen and precious to God. He has called us to be a holy priesthood - to serve Him, to love and care for... and minister to His people. Understanding the Master Keys will equip us and make us effective. It will allow us, along with our family and friends, and brothers and sisters in Christ, to be built into a strong spiritual house, together and successful for all eternity!