# The Master Key: Seek First the Kingdom
# Lesson 5: A Church of One Heart and One Mind

**1. Introduction and review**

**Matthew 6:32**

God knows you need all these things.

You do not have to spend your time seeking after all these things. Unbelievers live their lives that way. You are instructed in God's Word to not live like that.

What are you supposed to spend your time seeking?

**Matthew 6:33**

You seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness.

Do you believe this verse? Is it true that if you give yourself entirely to seeking first the kingdom of God that everything you need materially and financially will be added to you without you stressing out trying to get it?

Definition of SEEK:

- Think about it
- Think about how to obtain it
- Plot

You get up in the morning thinking about it. You spend all day thinking about it. You go to bed thinking about it.

About what? – "What can I do to advance the kingdom of God today? How can You use me to see Your kingdom expand?"

If I am doing that, will my bills get paid? Will I have a place to live? Will I have food to eat?

If you take care of God's business, _____

**Philippians 1:27**

What does this verse sound like? – It sounds like people who have the kingdom on their minds. Everybody is on the same page!

**2. Philippians chapter two**

When we read Philippians chapter two, we understand that it was written by the Apostle Paul. But let's read it like it is from Father God.

**Philippians 2:1, 2**

God is saying, "Fulfill my joy." We could say that we make God happy by being like-minded and of the same heart.

**Philippians 2:3-7**

Later, Paul writes about Timothy.

**Philippians 2:19-21**

Paul has had some experience dealing with many different people. This is his conclusion about people.

But he says, "I have a man named Timothy. He has been helping me. He is like a son to a father. I don't have anybody else who is like-minded with me. Because all seek their own, and not the things that are the Lord's."

He is not talking about sinners. _____

Selfishness and self-centeredness are the scourge of the church.

**<u>Philippians 2:21 – Amplified Bible</u>**
*For the others all seek [to advance] their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ (the Messiah).*

**<u>Philippians 2:21 – New International Version</u>**
*For everyone looks out for their own interests . . .*

This is the problem. Many people in the Body of Christ are living, not for the kingdom, but after their own interests.

**3. Jesus' prayer for us in John chapter seventeen**

**John 17:11**

Jesus did not pray that we would be able to tolerate one another. He prayed that we would be one like Jesus and the Father are one!

**John 17:20, 21**

This reveals the heart of God! It is the same thing in Philippians chapter two.

**Philippians 2:2**

Why does God want us to be this way? – Because we will never reach our full potential until we are one.

I don't have it all. You don't have it all. None of us do.

I am not the body of Christ. I am a member of the body. You are not the body of Christ. You are a member.

I have something you do not have, and you have something I don't have.

One church is strong in one thing. Another church is strong in another thing.

In order to have everything, God needs to put us all together.

The devil knows and understands this.

**4. The new commandment**

**John 13:34**

Why is this important? – This is the only way the Body of Christ can accomplish its vision and calling. We must work together.

If I walk in love toward you and you walk in love toward me – even though we have differences – we will not let that keep us apart.

Even though you make a mistake, and I make a mistake – we will forgive each other.

Even though you do not agree with me on everything, and I do not agree with you on everything, we both love the Lord and agree that we must advance the kingdom!

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**5. Acts chapter two**

In this chapter you have the beginning of the church. They were just filled with the Holy Spirit.

**Acts 2:41**

Does this remind you of Matthew 6:33?

**Matthew 6:33**

If a church is alive, it will grow.

**Acts 2:44, 45**

They were together and they pulled their resources.

**Acts 2:46**

The King James Version says – *singleness of heart.*

Together, common, singleness – Can you see a theme running through this?

They were one in heart, mind, spirit, and faith.

They were not this way to advance a political party. They were this way to build the kingdom!

They are obsessed with this.

They are not only willing to do this – they are happy to do it!

**Acts 2:47**

There was something about the way the early church lived that attracted people to them.

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People said, "I want to be a part of that!"

People were being saved every day.

**Acts 4:32**

When the Bible speaks about multitudes it means thousands.

Is it possible to get thousands of people to be of one heart? – _____

Nobody forced these people to do this. They did it willingly.

**<u>Acts 4:32 – Amplified Bible</u>**
*Now the company of believers was of one heart and soul, and not one of them claimed that anything which he possessed was [exclusively] his own, but everything they had was in common and for the use of all.*

**<u>Acts 4:32 – Easy To Read Version</u>**
*The whole group of believers was united in their thinking and in what they wanted.*

**Acts 4:33**

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In the Book of Acts entire towns and cities turned to Jesus.

**Acts 4:34, 35**

What the early church did was precious to God. We know this because great grace was upon them all. Nobody was making them do this.

Do we want people to be saved every day? Do we want the miracles that were seen in the early church? Do we want the kingdom of God to expand more rapidly?

Then we must get rid of selfishness. It is hindering us.

There are many good pastors and ministers out there, but they are full of fear. They keep a tight grip on everything.

They do not work together for fear of losing people and money. There is no joining of resources like there should be.

We need leaders and believers who love God so much that all they want to see is the kingdom advanced!