The Master Key: Seek First the Kingdom
Lesson 6: The Anointing Breaks Bondages

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.

You are to spend your time seeking God's Kingdom and He adds all these things to you.

You do not have to worry about doing God's part. You only do your part.

---

2. Selfishness

The problem with many Christians is that they are selfish.

Babies are selfish. But as you spiritually mature you should be different.

Many look at Christianity as a way of "self-improvement". They apply Biblical principles to improve their finances, relationships, business, etc.

These are the things that are on their minds.

But when you are seeking the kingdom first, _____

_____

We must be about the business of the kingdom!

We must be willing to work together.

John 17:11

Jesus prayed that we would be like Jesus and the Father.

Philippians 2:2

_____

We need everyone in the Body of Christ. None of us have everything. We are parts of the Body. We need each other to do the job of the kingdom.

3. We need people who have the heart and mind of John the Baptist.

Most people do not realize that Jesus was an "unknown". John's ministry was well known.

Everyone knew John the Baptist. His ministry was huge. His meetings were large. His influence was great.

He was the one who introduced the people to Jesus. When he introduced Jesus to the people, his own disciples left him that day!

Some of John's disciples said, "It's not right. Everyone is leaving you and going to Him. You are the one who helped Him get started."

What did John say? – "He must increase, and I must decrease."

So many people want their name on the sign. They are jealous. They want it to be their ministry that is noticed.

The truth is that many of these people should not even have their own ministry. They could not submit and had a wrong attitude, so they went off and started something on their own. But the Lord never told them to do what they are doing.

What would happen if everyone got in their place in the Body of Christ and operated in their grace?

_____

4. The anointing

<u>Ecclesiastes 4:9, 10, 12 – New Living Translation</u>

Ecclesiastes 4:9 *Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed.*

Ecclesiastes 4:10 *If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But someone who falls alone is in real trouble.*

Ecclesiastes 4:12 *A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better . . .*

<u>Ecclesiastes 4:12 – Complete English Version</u>
Somebody may be able to beat up one of you, but not both of you.

<u>Psalm 133:1, 2 – Easy To Read Version</u>

Psalm 133:1 *Oh how wonderful, how pleasing it is when God's people all come together as one.*

Psalm 133:2 *It's like the sweet smelling oil that is poured over the high priest's head that runs down his beard, flowing over his robes.*

There is an anointing that flows over us when we get together that we do not experience any other way.

This anointing is for a reason. The harvest is ripe. _____

_____

5. Living in God's will

In order to be in your place and functioning in your part of the Body of Christ, you must be living in God's will.

What will get you out of God's will? – _____

Matthew 6:33

Remember that the word "seek" means to think about and to plot.

Did you know that whatever you set your mind on, you open your spirit to?

_____

It is important what you have on your mind all the time.

Some people do not understand this. They think – "As long as I don't say it and as long as I don't do it, it is no big deal if I just think about it."

Just like there are some places your body ought not go, there are places your mind ought not be.

The enemy knows this. So, he is trying to take up time in our minds.

"I am just thinking about it. As long as I don't do it, I haven't gone too far."

This is not true.

Matthew 5:28

This does not describe a man who sees a woman and thinks – "She's attractive."

This says he looks at her to lust. This means he is choosing to look, think, imagine, and fantasize – he is yielding to it.

This man did not "do" anything, but Jesus said he did.

Matthew 5:28

Does it matter what we do with our mind? – Yes

6. What you think about matters.

Before Adam and Even took the fruit, ate it, and disobeyed God, what happened?

They were hanging around a tree that they had no business hanging around.

I am sure they told themselves – "We are not going to do anything. We are just going to look."

But if you have done this much – you are already yielding. You are already sliding.

Proverbs 7:4-8

Proverbs 7:22-25

The young man was told not to go near the house of the immoral woman.

The ones who are truly strong are not the ones who mess around with it. _____

_____

You must do what Joseph did. – Run!

2 Corinthians 10:3

Although we live in the world, we are supposed to operate differently from the world.

We can control our minds and our flesh.

We do not have to act like the world acts. They will look at anything. They will imagine, fanaticize, and daydream about anything. They will talk in any kind of way.

But the Lord has taught us to live a better way.

Sin is not just about making you feel bad. Sin is about robbing you of your faith and preventing you from entering your call and His plan for your life.

Jesus was tempted by the devil.

Luke 4:3, 4

Jesus said, "I am not going to think about bread. I am going to think about the Word of God. The Word of God feeds me. The Word of God satisfies me."

If you can control your mind – _____

But if you listen to him and start thinking – "Bread! I love bread!" – You are toast!

Jesus controlled His mind and kept it where it was supposed to be by the Word of God.

He would not let the devil distract him.

Luke 4:5, 6

Is this a real temptation for Jesus? – Yes.

The devil is showing Him a short cut. – "No need going through the cross and all of that. You can be ruling and reigning this afternoon."

Luke 4:7

What is the critical thing for you to do when this happens? – You cannot afford to let your mind think on that thing. You cannot even consider it for a moment.

If you consider it, you are already yielding to it.

Luke 4:8

Jesus was in control of His mind and His words.

Can you do the same thing? – _____

It is a lie to believe that you cannot help it to think about it.

Your mind is ***your*** mind! You do not have to let it go in a direction you do not want it to go.

7. The devil's purpose with your sin.

Sin is not about feeling bad about yourself.

There are millions of Christians who have amazing and wonderful calls and anointings on their lives. However, somewhere along the way they messed up.

Because of that they have not been involved in the ministry or in the local church in years.

They were looking at something. They were thinking about something.

Now they are so condemned, they do not feel like God can even use them anymore.

Even though they have great calls on their lives, because they are not stepping out in faith – nothing is happening.

You could have the most amazing call and anointing on your life – but if you never step out and do it – nothing is going to happen.

_____

_____

He has then prevented that gift and anointing from functioning.

The devil is afraid of the anointing. Why? – _____

_____

The devil is in the yoke and burden business. He will work for years to get somebody under a heavy burden – even generation to generation.

The anointing is so powerful that it can shatter and destroy the yoke and the burden that the devil took decades to build.

If he can tempt you to sin – and you fall into it – he has done more than make you sin. He has prevented your call and anointing from ever functioning in the Body of Christ.

But there is good news! No matter how terrible the sin, the blood of Jesus is more powerful than your sin.

And if you are forgiven, you can operate in your anointing!

---

8. Conclusion

What you think about is important, because it determines the way you will live. Sin is born from thinking.

So, we must change the way we think and get sin out of our lives.

When we live free from sin we will have an anointing in our lives.

Still, that is not enough. We must be a part of the Body of Christ. When we submit ourselves to God and find our place in the Body of Christ, that anointing will operate along with others to advance God's kingdom.

That is the master key.

God and His kingdom come first, before anything else and we will experience true prosperity.