

## BE A BRINGER

*“40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus....”*  
John 1:40-42a

A bringer makes one touch each week by investing and inviting someone to Christ and church.

Name three people you will pray for their salvation this week:

## PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK

*“Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you;....”* I Samuel 12:23a

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## MISSIONARIES OF THE WEEK



**Sandra Heim - Peru**

**PRAISE**  
On June 6th, after several years of praying, preparing, and training, a new Prenatal Center, Digno de Vida (Worthy of Life), was opened in the city of Arequipa. On June 11th, the Lima Prenatal Center had a day of intensive training which included 9 new volunteers, as well as most of those who are continuing in that ministry. The Lima center is also offering specialized training for those who specifically want to be involved in the ministry of counseling.

slheim@abwe.cc



Handout: 07/31/22  
Study Date: 08/07/22

## Heads Up, Eyes Open

The biblical passage that makes reference to the “keys of the kingdom” is Matthew 16:19. Jesus had asked His disciples who people thought He was. After hearing several of the more popular opinions, Jesus aimed His question directly at His disciples. Peter, responding for the twelve, acknowledged Jesus as the Christ, the Son of the Living God. After this great confession, Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven” (Matthew 16:17–19).

Keys are used to lock or unlock doors. The specific doors Jesus has in mind in this passage are the doors to the Kingdom of Heaven. Jesus is laying the foundation of His church (Ephesians 2:20). The disciples will be the leaders of this new institution, and Jesus is giving them the authority to, as it were, open the doors to heaven and invite the world to enter. At this point it is important to understand how, biblically speaking, one enters the Kingdom of Heaven.

Jesus said that, unless one is born again, he will not see the Kingdom of Heaven (John 3:3). One is born again as the Holy Spirit works through the Word of God to bring about new life in a dead sinner. The content of the message is the substitutionary death of Christ and His subsequent resurrection (Romans 10:9–10). So the faithful preaching of the gospel is the key to the kingdom.

In Matthew 16:19, Jesus is specifically addressing Peter, so it is significant that, in the book of Acts, Peter figures prominently in the “opening of doors” to three different groups of people so they can enter the Kingdom. In Acts 2, it is Peter who preaches in Jerusalem on the Day of Pentecost; about three thousand Jewish people are saved that day. Peter’s preaching had “unlocked the door” of heaven for the Jews. Later, in Acts 8, the Samaritans believe the gospel and receive the Holy Spirit; again, Peter (and John) was present for this event. Peter had “unlocked the door” for the Samaritans. Then, in Acts 10, Peter brings the gospel to a Roman centurion’s household, and they, too, receive the Holy Spirit. Peter had “unlocked the door” for the Gentiles. The “keys” that Jesus had given him worked in each case.

Source: Gotquestions.org

## KEY VERSE

Matthew 16:19 (NKJV)

*“And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”*

## WEEKLY READINGS

**Monday: Matthew 16:1-19**

### Introduction

1. What does Jesus mean to you?
2. What had Jesus brought to the world that confused the legalists and religious crowd?

**Tuesday: Matthew 16:1-4; 2 Cor. 5:16-21**

### Heads Up, Eyes Open: See Missions Through God's Eyes

3. How is God at work in the world locally? How is God at work in the world globally?
4. How can you join Him in what He is doing?

**Wednesday: Matthew 16:5-12; I Corinthians 13:11-12**

### Faith: Focus Through The Lenses Of Faith

5. What are some things that stop us from seeing people through the lens of faith?
6. How does focusing on our rewards on earth hurt our ability to reach people for Christ?

**Thursday: Matthew 16:13-17; I John 4:9-19; I Peter 1:3-5**

### The Only Question Jesus Asked

7. What questions did Jesus ask the disciples?
8. How did Peter answer the question for himself?
9. Who is Jesus to you?

**Friday: Matthew 16:18-19; I Corinthians 3:9-11**

### How Will You Respond?

10. How do you sense God might be calling you to reach people locally and globally?
11. When God shows you your mission, how will you respond to His offer to give you the keys?
12. Do you trust God to provide what you need for the mission he has called you to do?