

# *The Keys To The Kingdom*

2 Corinthians 4:1-6

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How to be used most effectively by God:

- By all means – live so we don't **DISCREDIT** the **MESSAGE**.
- Understand the **SPIRITUAL** dynamic behind the **MESSAGE**.
- Stay on point: the **MESSAGE** is **JESUS CHRIST**– as **LORD**.

## **FURTHER UP, FURTHER IN**

1. Read 2 Cor 4:1-6. What is the significance of the New Covenant Ministry to which Paul refers in v.1? (You may wish to refer back to 2:15 through Chapter 3).
2. How did Paul's understanding toward this ministry affect how he approached it? How does our understanding and attitude affect how we approach and fulfill our ministry?
3. Read 1 Thes 1:1-8; 2 Cor 6:3-4a; and 2 Tim 2:20-21. Can the way we live discredit the message of our ministry, the Gospel? Have you ever seen someone do this? What were Paul's thoughts about this? What are some things to watch for, and possibly change, so that our lives are 'above reproach'?
4. How does the 'god of this world' blind the minds of unbelievers so that they cannot see the light of the glory of Christ (2 Cor 4:4)? Can his tactics affect believers as well? How?
5. What is the primary Message we, individually and as a church, should be communicating to the world? Why?
6. Read Matt 16:13-19. What are the *Keys to the Kingdom* that Jesus was handing off to Peter? How does this apply to us?
7. What are ways in which we can communicate God's Message effectively? How can we help one another improve in this area?