



***“The Key”***  
**Realizing Your Potential pt. 3**

**April 13, 2008**  
**Sermon Notes**

*What's the key to being all that you ever dreamed of being?*

**We can realize our potential when we choose (commit) to become all that Christ created us to be.**

**Choice #1: Be Either Hot or Cold.**

**Revelations 2:15- 19 (New International Version)**

<sup>15</sup>I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other!  
<sup>16</sup>So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth.  
<sup>17</sup>You say, 'I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.' But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked. <sup>18</sup>I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see. <sup>19</sup>Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest, and repent.

**Choice #2: Not to Become Calloused.**

**Matthew 13:15 (New International Version)**

<sup>15</sup>For this people's heart has become calloused;  
they hardly hear with their ears,  
and they have closed their eyes.  
Otherwise they might see with their eyes,  
hear with their ears,  
understand with their hearts  
and turn, and I would heal them.

**Matthew 13:53-58 (New International Version)**

<sup>53</sup>When Jesus had finished these parables, he moved on from there. <sup>54</sup>Coming to his hometown, he began teaching the people in their synagogue, and they were amazed. "Where did this man get this wisdom and these miraculous powers?" they asked. <sup>55</sup>"Isn't this the carpenter's son? Isn't his mother's name Mary, and aren't his brothers James, Joseph, Simon and Judas? <sup>56</sup>Aren't all his sisters with us? Where then did this man get all these things?" <sup>57</sup>And they took offense at him.

But Jesus said to them, "Only in his hometown and in his own house is a prophet without honor."

<sup>58</sup>And he did not do many miracles there because of their lack of faith.

### **Choice #3: To Follow Christ, No Matter Where He Leads.**

#### **Matthew 8:18-22 (New International Version)**

<sup>18</sup>When Jesus saw the crowd around him, he gave orders to cross to the other side of the lake.

<sup>19</sup>Then a teacher of the law came to him and said, "Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go."

<sup>20</sup>Jesus replied, "Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head."

<sup>21</sup>Another disciple said to him, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father."

<sup>22</sup>But Jesus told him, "Follow me, and let the dead bury their own dead."

### **Choice #4: To Be Alert.**

#### **1 Thessalonians 5:2-11 (New International Version)**

<sup>2</sup>for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup>While people are saying, "Peace and safety," destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.

<sup>4</sup>But you, brothers, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief. <sup>5</sup>You are all sons of the light and sons of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. <sup>6</sup>So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be alert and self-controlled. <sup>7</sup>For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night. <sup>8</sup>But since we belong to the day, let us be self-controlled, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet. <sup>9</sup>For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>10</sup>He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. <sup>11</sup>Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

### **Conclusion**

- 1. Be either hot or cold, never lukewarm.**
- 2. Don't become calloused and lose your passion.**
- 3. Follow Christ wherever that may lead.**
- 4. Be alert always, we never know when HE (Christ) may return!**