



August 26, while waiting for my nephew Joseph's wedding, I was walking around an old barn at my brother's house. It was just about time to get dressed and leave, but then I noticed this lock and unique key. Now as far as locks go, this is not the most secure, and the unlocking mechanism is not overly sophisticated. The combination is not difficult to guess and any thief could pick the lock.

But, this security device was not intended to keep unauthorized people out, but for keeping the livestock in. The padlock was placed outside the door of a stall in the barn to keep horses isolated or set apart from the other animals. It is placed on the door to help us focus on the animal held safely inside. Because of this lock we do not have to worry or guess about the location or safety of the horse. And we are free to focus our attention on the valuable animal within.

Wouldn't it be nice if we had such a security device in our lives? Something that would help us to focus on the important things and people in our lives. What would it be like not to have to worry about yesterday's nightmares or tomorrow's possible storms. Where do we find the key that will unlock the chains that make us prisoners? Chains of regret or remorse, the shackles of past mistakes and blunders, or the restraints other people want to place on us...

Today is the key! Live for today. Focus your thoughts and energy on today and refuse to be distracted by your past failures or the obstacles that may be in your future. When we are living for today, we are free to focus our attention on the things of value in our lives.

Are you free today? Are you enjoying your liberty and freedom or are you imprisoned in a cell of your own mental making? There is good news. The unlocking mechanism is not overly sophisticated and the combination is not difficult to guess. You can pick the lock and open the door to a brand new world called today.

Something to think about:

- Finish every day and be done with it. You have done what you could. Some blunders and absurdities no doubt have crept in; forget them as soon as you can. Tomorrow is a new day; begin it well and serenely and with too high a spirit to be cumbered with your old nonsense. This day is all that is good and fair. It is too dear, with its hopes and invitations, to waste a moment on yesterdays.
- Yesterday is a canceled check, and tomorrow is a promissory note. But today is cash, ready for us to spend in living.
- You wake up in the morning with twenty-four hours of the unmanufactured tissue of the universe of your life. It is yours. It is the most precious of possessions. No one can take it from you. It is unstealable. And no one receives either more or less.
- Every moment comes to you pregnant with a divine purpose; time being so precious that God deals it out only second by second. Once it leaves your hands and your power to do with it as you please, it plunges into eternity, to remain forever what you made it.

Looking for the Locksmith

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