

SERMON NOTES: April 26, 2026

Foundation Pour

Matthew 16:13-20

I. Establishing the Source - 16:13-16

II. Elevating the Understanding - 16:17-19

He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

Matthew 16:15-16

III. Exposing the Misunderstanding - 16:20

I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven.

Matthew 16:19

Life Group Study Questions

Foundation Pour

Matthew 16:13-20

1. Have you noticed the fact that Jesus is often on the front page of magazines? Why do you think people are so fascinated with Jesus?

2. People have many different opinions about the identity of Jesus. What are some that you have heard in your own life context that do not match up with Scripture?

3. Jesus asks Peter and the disciples, "Who do you say that I am?" Why does the personal aspect of this question matter so much?

4. Peter's confession is that Jesus is "the Christ, the Son of the Living God." List at least three things that Peter clearly believes about Jesus from this statement.

5. This is a significant moment for Peter and the disciples. They had been with Christ for 2 ½ years listening, learning, and discovering. What are they now declaring and believing?

6. What is the significance of Jesus saying that "flesh and blood did not reveal this to you?" Why are we unable to come to know Christ as Savior on our own?

7. Jesus declares "upon THIS rock I will build my church." To whom is he referring? Why is it highly unlikely that He means Peter?

8. What does it mean that "the gates of Hades will not overpower it" (the church)?

9. The "keys of the kingdom of heaven" refer to spiritual authority. This authority comes from Christ, and not man. How can apostles, disciples, and believers exercise this authority today?