

God's Desire for Me and My Church Matthew 16:13-20

BIG IDEA: *“And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the forces of Hades will not overpower it.”* (Matthew 16:18, HCSB)

God desires that I confess Christ as my Master.

“Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God!””
(Matthew 16:16, HCSB)

God desires that I follow Christ as a member of a local gathering of believers.

“And Jesus responded, “on this rock I will build My church”” (Matthew 16:18, HCSB)

Peter is not the rock on which Christ built His church.

“Coming to Him, a living stone—rejected by men but chosen and valuable to God—”
(1 Peter 2:4, HCSB)

Jesus is the foundation on which the church is built.

The church is a local “gathering” of followers of Christ.

God desires that we as a church push back against the false beliefs and powers of the day.

“And Jesus responded, “on this rock I will build My church, and the forces of Hades will not overpower it.”” (Matthew 16:18, HCSB)

God desires that we as a church make every effort to share the Gospel.

“I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth is already bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth is already loosed in heaven.” (Matthew 16:19, HCSB)

What are the keys to the kingdom?

“I assure you: Whatever you bind on earth is already bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth is already loosed in heaven.” (Matthew 18:18, HCSB)

The keys signify the power to proclaim the gospel which liberates men from sin. The rejection of this gospel also leaves men bound in sin, without hope in the world.

QUESTION: Have we charged Hell lately?