

I've Got Questions: Who is the Church?

(Matthew 16:13-19)

Opening Discussion: What comes to mind when you think about "Church?" What do you like most about the "Church?" Where have you seen the "Church" fail?

Big Idea: The _____ is a people who know and proclaim _____.

1. **Main Point #1** - _____ the _____.
(Matthew 16:___ - ___)

For further discussion: How would you answer Jesus' questions? Why is this question so important for us? Do you think someone can be a Christian and not believe that Jesus is the Christ and the Son of God? (See Joshua 24:15: How does Joshua's challenge to the Israelite people compare to Jesus' question? Why is it impossible to straddle the fence in either case?).

Notes:

2. **Main Point #2** – Let the _____ reveal the _____.
(Matthew 16:___)

For further discussion: How do you respond to the idea that God reveals the Son to whomever He wills and withholds Him from whomever He wills? Is God unfair? (See Romans 9:10-16: What does this passage add to our understanding of God's sovereignty? Does it give you comfort that God is in control and knows what he is doing?)

Notes:

3. **Main Point #3** – Be the _____.
(Matthew 16:___ - ___)

For further discussion: How familiar are you with Matthew 16:18? How have you heard it explained? Do you agree or disagree with Pastor James? Why or why not? (See Revelation 1:9-11: Why do you think Jesus had John send this to 7 churches as opposed to just "The Church?" Does that add to our understanding of what Jesus meant in Matthew 16? How can you be the church in the coming weeks?)

Notes:

Response: Who do you say _____ is? Have you committed yourself to the _____?

