

CONFESSION: YOU ARE THE CHRIST



BIG IDEA

Everything about following Jesus depends on rightly knowing and confessing who He is.

RIGHTLY KNOW HIM. BOLDLY CONFESS HIM.

I. Jesus Reveals Who He Is — Matthew 16:13–17

- The crowd offers several answers: John the Baptist, Elijah, Jeremiah, or a prophet.
- Peter confesses: “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”
- “Flesh and blood” did not reveal this. The Father disclosed Jesus’ identity to Peter.
- Matthew 11:27: the Father uniquely knows the Son.

II. Jesus Builds What Belongs to Him — Matthew 16:18

- Πέτρος (Petros) / πέτρα (petra); likely Aramaic kēpā’ / Cephas, “rock.”
- Peter has a foundational apostolic role; Christ builds the church.
- qāhāl → ἐκκλησία (ekklēsia) → “MY CHURCH.”
- The gates of Hades will not overpower the people Christ builds.

NOTES

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III. Jesus Entrusts His Work to His People — Matthew 16:19-20

- Isaiah 22: King → steward → key → delegated authority.
- Matthew 16: Christ → Peter → keys → kingdom service.
- NASB95: “shall have been bound / loosed” in heaven (v. 19).
- Matthew 18:18 repeats binding and loosing to the gathered disciples.
- Verse 20 holds the tension. Verse 21 begins: “From that time...”

DIG DEEPER

01 Caesarea Philippi — Where Peter Made the Great Confession • 02 Upon This Rock — What Did Jesus Mean? • 03 Church, Hades & Keys — Three Images Behind Matthew 16:18–19

Christ the King holds ultimate authority and entrusts His servants with kingdom work.

REFLECTION & APPLICATION

1. Am I relying on what people say about Jesus, or listening to His own revelation?
2. Where do I confess the right title while resisting the way of His cross?
3. How does “I will build My church” steady my view of the church?
4. Where can I serve under Christ’s authority with humility and faithfulness?

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