

# Church

*I will build my*

## Discussion guide | Matthew 16:13-16

In Matthew 16:18, following Peter's declaration of Jesus as the Messiah, Jesus responds, "And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock, I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it." This passage is pivotal as it signifies the establishment of the Christian Church, with Peter's faith and confession serving as its foundation.

The verse underscores the enduring strength and resilience of the Church, promising that it will withstand all challenges. It also highlights Peter's significant role in the early Christian community and the divine authority bestowed upon him. This moment is often seen as the inception of the Church's mission and its divine protection.

Starter:

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- What has been the most memorable part of the Luke's series for you?
- How has studying a book of the Bible at a slow pace helped you to get a better picture of Jesus?
- What is your favorite Gospel? Why?

Digging Deeper:

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### Read: Matthew 16:13-16

13 When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?" 14 They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets." 15 "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" 16 Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

- Why is the mention of the location of this conversation important to the context of the story?
- Were you aware of the history of Caesarea Philippi? What stood out to you most?

**Read: Matthew 16:18**

18 And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock, I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.

- What is the “rock” that Jesus is going to build his church on?

**Read: Colossians 1:15-20**

15 The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. 16 For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. 17 He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. 18 And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. 19 For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, 20 and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

- List all the attributes of Jesus found in this text.
- How do you see Jesus building his church today?
- On Sunday, Kyle said that a leader in Colorado on the state level said, “If the church were to shut down, then the city would be in chaos within 24 hours.”
- How does that statement sit with you? Agree/Disagree?
- What are some ways that you see Revive Church storming the gates of hell?
- In your own life, are you storming the gates of hell or gently knocking? What is the difference?
- Give some tangible examples of what “storming the gates of hell” might look like in your life?
- Prayer
- Ask God our Father to grow a deep zeal in you and your group for joining Jesus in building his church. Ask that God would deepen our desire to be a people who are storming the gates of hell.