

**By His Spirit...We Plant Churches!**  
**Text: Matthew 16:13-20**  
**November 19, 2022**

**Big Idea: By His Spirit, Jesus builds His Church through His Church.**

**Context is key!**

**Question #1 (Context)**

*Ask Yourself: What is going on in the text?*

- a) What is the setting and what is happening?
- b) Who are the main characters?
- c) Are there any words/phrases that are repeated?

**Question #2 (Context)**

*Ask Yourself: What does the text say about God and about me?*

- a) Is God saying or showing something about Himself? If so, what?
- b) Do the words in the text predict, prophesy or picture something about Jesus? If so, what?
- c) Is God saying or showing something about us? If so, what?
- d) How does the text point to my need for Jesus? How?

**Question #3 (Context)**

*Ask Yourself: What are the principles, commands or promises given?*

- a) What is the overall theme of the text?
- b) Does the passage include any promise from God? If so, what?

**Question #4 (Context)**

*Ask Yourself: What is the application?*

- a) What is one specific way I can live by these truths, or trust in these promises today?
- b) What is the next step that I need to take to see this happen?

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**Point 1: A Foundational CONFESSION (vv. 13-17)**

**Question #5**

- a) **Rd vv. 13-16**
- b) What do you find to be the prevailing attitudes towards Jesus, of those who do not have faith in Jesus?
- c) What is Peter's foundation confession so important?
- d) Since the canon of Scripture is now completed and believers have been given the Holy Spirit, we know much more about Jesus than Peter knew about Him here. Who is Jesus? Find and share Scriptures from both the OT and NT that declare who He is.

### Question #6

- a) How should knowing these truths impact how we live as His witnesses?
- b) What area(s) do you struggle with unbelief in who Jesus is? (ie-Where does your life not match your confession?)
- c) What is the fruit in your life (thoughts, words, actions) that comes forward in those times you doubt?
- d) What are you thinking in those moments?
- e) What is it that you really want in those moments?
- f) Which truths about Jesus and promises from Him, can you go to in those moments of doubt?

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### Point 2: Our **ENDURANCE** (v. 18)

#### Question #7

- a) **Rd. v. 18:** How does this promise give you and our church confidence in Christ?
- b) **Rd. Matthew 28: 18-20:** Why does church planting need to be a part of the DNA of Hope Ottawa?
- c) What are the potential implications of making disciples of all people groups on our lives?
- d) Which implication(s) do you find the hardest? Why?
- e) Spend time in prayer for one another over these areas.

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### Point 3: His **MESSAGE** (v. 19)

#### Question #8

*Key Point: The keys of the kingdom are the message of the gospel of Jesus. As we proclaim the gospel, some reject and others, Lord willing, receive God's grace through faith.*

- a) **Rd. v. 19:** How can we help one another in presenting the keys of the kingdom, the good news of Jesus Christ, to others?
- b) Pray through these ways as a group and follow-up on them through the week with each other.

### Prayer Application

Spend time as a group or in accountability praying out of **Matthew 16:13-20...**

- a) **ADORATION:** Jesus, I praise you because you are...
- b) **CONFESSION:** Jesus, I confess I am tempted to not trust you with/in...
- c) **THANKSGIVING:** Jesus, I thank you for...
- d) **SUPPLICATION:** Jesus, I ask you to build Your Church through...

*Memory Verse:*

*"...I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."*

*-Matthew 16:18b*