

Sermon Notes – Matthew 16:13-26 The Keys of the Kingdom

Read Matthew 16:13-18

"Who do people say the Son of Man is?"

Jesus has made an impression. He has healed people, cast out demons, taught phenomenal stuff, and created a following. But not everyone realizes exactly who He is.

The general consensus is that Jesus is someone who would be followed by the Messiah, the One who would clean this whole mess up, the One who would come and be King and rule, and no one could stand against Him...

But it is clear they did NOT think He was the One. Things weren't *different* enough.

Simon is the first among millions to see it and say it. "This is the guy who has come to change the world. He is right here, standing in front of us, and the world is about to change."

As we confess who Jesus is, Jesus confesses who we are. Seeing who Jesus truly is reveals who you truly are. Until then, it is hidden.

Read Matthew 16:19 -- The Keys

This community was to be recognized where people worked, where people went to school, and even where people hung out.

The community existed every day, not just one day – Sunday.

The community existed everywhere, not just one place – the church building.

And so this power that Jesus gave them (and gives us) isn't just for inside these walls, not to determine who is in and who is out.

The keys to the kingdom are for changing the nature of the world...from corrupt to just, from filthy to clean, from frightening to safe, from dead to alive.

How do we as a church, the foundation of Jesus' community, use these keys of the kingdom which expand every aspect of our lives and the lives of others.

Our Lives Through The Crossover

CORE weekend ...

Habitat for Humanity... The Fire Department... Elementary Schools...

New marriages ... Rough Parenting... Surgery... Funerals...

Fourth Grade competencies are supposedly being used to plan for **prison beds** in the future.

Read Matthew 16:21-26 – Lay Down Your Life

Be careful confusing what you THINK the church should be about and what the church IS about. It's about Jesus. And Jesus started down a direction Peter didn't expect and didn't want the church to be about.

It is this Son of the Living God, who gives me life and raise me from the dead.

It is this Son of the Living God who fills my life with goodness and joy more than I could ever imagine.

It is this Son of the Living God, the Christ, who leads us into the community and into the world to bring healing to the broken and life to the poor.

Here is a really important question for you to answer:
Who do you say He is?