

1. The term Jesus used for “church” in Matt. 16:18 means “called out from.” List the things that Jesus calls people out of? What specifically did he call you out from? What has he called you to?
2. Who does the culture say Jesus is? From where do people form their opinion about who Jesus is?
3. Read Matt. 16:17. What must happen in a person before they can comprehend who Jesus is? Can you describe a time when God gave you revelation about who Jesus is beyond what your “flesh and blood” could comprehend?
4. Do you ever feel discouraged that the “gates of hell” are prevailing against the church? What makes you feel this way? What do you see that confirms Jesus’ promise to build His church is still in effect?
5. Why do you think people claim to love Jesus yet have such a negative view of His church? Is this how you feel? Why is it impossible to love Jesus without loving His church?
6. Jesus has given his disciples the “keys of the kingdom.” Are you locking the door of heaven for others? If so, how? Are you unlocking the door of Heaven for others? If so, how?
7. Contrast the following verses
 - Whose responsibility is it to build the church? Matt. 16:18, 1Cor. 3:11
 - Who is the foundation of the church? 1Cor. 3:11, Eph. 2:19-20
 - Who holds the keys to the kingdom? Matt. 16:19, Rev. 1:18, 3:7
 - Who is the light of the world? Matt 5:14, John 9:5What do you conclude about your responsibility to the church as a disciple of Jesus?