

The King's Road: The Revelation of the King

Re: GROUP

The King's Road: Questions and Declarations

Matthew 16:13-20

Small Group Discussion Guide

Icebreaker

1. Have you ever been asked a question that completely changed the direction of your life?
2. Who has had the greatest influence on what you believe about God?

Digging Into the Text

Read Matthew 16:13-20

I. Jesus' Questions (16:13-17)

The Setting

1. Why do you think Jesus chose Caesarea Philippi—a place filled with pagan worship—to ask His disciples about His identity?
2. What does this setting teach us about following Christ in a culture filled with competing beliefs?

"Who Do People Say That I Am?"

3. What were the various opinions people had about Jesus?
4. Why is it easier to talk about what others believe than to answer for ourselves?
5. If Jesus asked your community today, "Who do people say that I am?" what kinds of answers would He hear?

"Who Do You Say That I Am?"

6. Why is Jesus' second question more personal and more important?
7. Peter declared that Jesus is "the Christ, the Son of the living God." What does that confession mean?
8. How would you answer Jesus' question if He asked you today?

The Father's Revelation

9. Jesus said Peter's understanding came from the Father. Why is recognizing Jesus ultimately a work of God's grace?
10. How has God opened your eyes to understand who Jesus truly is?

II. Jesus' Declarations (16:18-20)

Building His Church

11. What encourages you most about Jesus' promise, "I will build my church"?
12. Why is it important to remember that Jesus—not us—is the builder of the church?
13. What does it mean that "the gates of hell shall not prevail against it"?

A Kingdom on Mission

14. The sermon described believers as "gate-kickers" who rescue people from darkness. How does that picture change the way you think about the church's mission?
15. In what ways can our church actively push back against the kingdom of darkness in our community?

The Keys of the Kingdom

16. What responsibilities come with being entrusted with the message of the gospel?
17. How can we faithfully use the opportunities God gives us to point others to Christ?

Speaking the Truth

18. Why did Jesus tell the disciples not to reveal His identity at that point in His ministry?
19. Why are Christians today commanded to proclaim the good news rather than remain silent?
20. What fears or obstacles keep us from sharing our faith?

Personal Application

21. Is your understanding of Jesus based more on culture, family tradition, or Scripture?
22. How has your answer to "Who do you say that I am?" changed over the years?
23. What area of your life needs to come under the authority of Jesus as the Messiah?
24. Who in your life needs to hear the truth about who Jesus is?
25. What is one practical step you can take this week to participate in Christ's mission of building His church?

Closing Challenge

This week, spend time thanking God for revealing His Son to you. Then pray for one person who does not yet recognize Jesus as the Christ, and look for an opportunity to share with them who Jesus is and what He has done.

Prayer Time

Prayer Reflection

Before praying together, ask:

- Has my confession of Jesus become merely intellectual, or is it shaping the way I live?
- Am I actively participating in Christ's mission to build His church?
- Who has God placed in my life that needs to hear about Jesus?