



Key References:

Matthew 16:13–19 (ESV)

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “**Who do people say that the Son of Man is?**” ¹⁴ And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” ¹⁵ He said to them, “**But who do you say that I am?**” ¹⁶ Simon Peter replied, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, “**Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven.**” ¹⁸ **And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.** ¹⁹ **I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”**

Ephesians 1:16–23 (ESV)

¹⁶ I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, ¹⁷ that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, ¹⁸ having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might ²⁰ that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹ far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. ²² And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

1 – Who do they say Jesus is?

In Matthew 16:13 Jesus asks the disciples what regular people thought about him. **What would regular people in Nanaimo say about Jesus if we asked them?**

In one sentence, if they asked you, who would you say Jesus is?

2 – The mission that Jesus give

If you had to give a mission statement of what your life is all about, what would it be?

Read Peter’s answer to who Jesus was in Matthew 16:16, then read Jesus response to his answer in v17-19.

What is the mission that Jesus gave Paul here?

What other places in scripture can you think of where Jesus gave his followers a mission?

3 – Confidence to live for the mission

What promises did Jesus give Paul about that mission in v17-19?

Do you feel that Jesus has given you the same mission and tools that Paul was promised here? What parts of Jesus’ response to Peter also apply to us?

What do you think are “the keys of the kingdom of heaven” that Jesus mentions in v19?

What do you think Jesus meant when he talked about binding and loosing in v19?

Ephesians 1:16-23 is full of strengthening promises for those who know Jesus. **Which verses gives you the most confidence?**

4 – Our relationship with Jesus come first

Why, before we get on mission for Jesus, must our personal relationship with Jesus come first?

Tyrone compared relationship with Jesus to that of marriage, in that a marriage isn’t about remembering the wedding day but about the daily pursuit of each other. **Are you still in a daily pursuit of Jesus?**