



Key References:

Matthew 16:15–18 (ESV)

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.**

Colossians 1:15–20 (ESV)

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. ¹⁶ For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. ¹⁷ And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

Ephesians 1:22–23 (NLT)

God has put all things under the authority of Christ and has made him head over all things **for the benefit of the church.** ²³ And **the church is his body; it is made full and complete by Christ,** who fills all things everywhere with himself.

1 – THE NEW SEASON WE ARE IN

Moving into September has there been a seasonal shift in your life? Has God started, or are you sensing something new, in your life personally?

What about at Oceanside? Are you sensing anything from God about what He wants to do? How can you seek that personally?

Why did Andy bring us to Matthew 16 are we start out fresh?

2 – WHO BUILDS JESUS’ CHURCH?

Read Matthew 16:13-18. **What is the “rock” mentioned in v18? And, what is the significance of it for Oceanside?**

Jesus also affirms that the church is His, and He is on the one who builds it. **What issues do we run into when we try to build the church in our own strength? What can’t the church be built on that people try to?**

If the church is built upon the revelation of Jesus then how fundamental and important is it for us all to have an active relationship with Him?

3 – BUILT BY A KING WHOS OVER EVERYTHING

Read Colossians 1:15-20. **When we consider these words about the position of Jesus how does it put things in perspective in your life?**

Read Ephesians 1:22-23. The NLT says Jesus’ position is *“for the benefit of the church.”* **How does this give us confidence for the church’s mission and people?**

If a church is built properly on *“the rock”* and if *“the gates of hell shall not prevail against it”*, **how can the knowledge of these things cast out worry, anxiety, and fear in our lives?**

4 – A GREATER REVERLATION

Andy mentioned that, like any personal relationship, relationship with Jesus can grow develop and become stronger. **As we set off on a new year what are your personal hopes for relationship with Jesus? And how will you make an environment to cultivate it?**