

THE KING'S UNIVERSITY
COURSE 9: CHURCH GROWTH STRATEGIES (Matthew 16:13-18)
October 19, 2025

THE SITUATION:

¹³ "When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi..." Matthew 16:13 (BSB)

THE PROMISE:

¹⁸ "...I will build My church..." Matthew 16:18 (BSB)

- "CHURCH" = EKKLESIA (GREEK) = A "CALLED OUT" ASSEMBLY OF PEOPLE.
- THE CHURCH IS ANY GATHERING OF BELIEVERS IN, AND FOLLOWERS OF, JESUS CHRIST.
 - THE "CHURCH" HAS BUILDINGS AND SYSTEMS, BUT IT IS NOT THOSE BUILDINGS AND SYSTEMS.
- THE BUILDING AND GROWTH OF THE CHURCH IS NOT IN HUMAN HANDS.
 - WE ARE USED AS WORKERS BY THE BUILDER.

¹⁵ "Make every effort to present yourself approved to God, an unashamed workman who accurately handles the word of truth." 2 Timothy 2:15 (BSB)

LESSONS ON WHAT KIND OF CHURCH JESUS BUILDS:

¹³ "...He questioned His disciples: "Who do people say the Son of Man is?" Matthew 16:13 (BSB)

- **LESSON #1: THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A CHURCH AND A NON-CHURCH IS WHAT THEY BELIEVE ABOUT THE IDENTITY OF JESUS.**

¹⁴ "They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets." Matthew 16:14 (BSB)

⁵ "Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and awesome Day of the LORD. ⁶And he will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers." Malachi 4:5-6 (BSB)

¹³ "For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John. ¹⁴And if you are willing to accept it, he is the Elijah who was to come. Matthew 11:13-14 (BSB)

- **NON-CHURCHES "DAMN JESUS BY FAINT PRAISE."**

¹⁵ "But what about you?" Jesus asked. "Who do you say I am?" Matthew 16:15 (BSB)

¹⁶ "Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Matthew 16:16 (BSB)

- **LESSON #2: THE ONLY KIND OF CHURCH JESUS BUILDS IS ONE BUILT ON THIS CONFESSION.**
 - **ANY “CHURCH” BUILT ON ANY OTHER CONFESSION IS BUILT BY SOMETHING ELSE.**

¹⁷“Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by My Father in heaven. Matthew 16:17 (BSB)

- **LESSON #3: THE CHURCH THAT JESUS BUILDS IS COMPRISED OF PEOPLE TO WHOM GOD HAS REVEALED THE TRUTH.**

¹⁴“How then can they call on the One in whom they have not believed? And how can they believe in the One of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone to preach?... ¹⁷Consequently, faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.”
Romans 10:14, 17 (BSB)

BOTTOM LINE:

ARE YOU WILLING TO HEAR, BELIEVE, AND LET HIM BUILD THROUGH YOU?

NEXT STEPS

- **PARENT FORUM**
 - Today in the Conference Room after both services.
- **MISSION TRIP 2026 INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS**
 - Moved to November 2nd in the Conference Room after both services.
- **CONNECT CARD**
 - 1st and 2nd time guests fill out and return to the GET Connected Hub for a free gift!