



THE
ORIGINAL
JESUS

LIFEGroup Study Guide



Matthew 16:13-20 // Post-Church Jesus

Getting Started

- *Larger LIFEGroups may consider splitting into same gender groups in order to facilitate more meaningful discussion.*
- *Groups will not have enough time to discuss every question. Leaders are encouraged to skip questions and make substitutions based on what's best for their group.*

Warm Ups (15 Min)

- Everyone go around and share a “High” from the week and a “Low” from the week.
- What did the word “church” mean to you growing up?

Scripture Study (30 Min)

- **HEAD - These questions help us examine what the Word shows.**
- Read Matthew 16:13-20
- In this passage, Peter confesses that Jesus is the Christ. Upon this confession (Matt. 16:16), Jesus says He will build His church (Matt. 16:18). On the Day of Pentecost, the church was built upon the preaching of Peter created by the Word of God (Acts 2:1-41). The church is Jesus’ idea. How does this Scripture help you in conversations with those who profess to be Christians but have rejected the church?

- Please read Acts 2:42. The first Christian congregation devoted themselves to hearing teaching and breaking bread (receiving communion). Please have people in your group look up 1 Tim. 2:7; 4:13, 16; 5:17; 2 Tim. 3:16; 4:2. What do these passages teach us about the importance of hearing biblical preaching? How is receiving biblical preaching and communion a blessing to you?
- **HEART - These questions help us wrestle with what we believe.**
- Read 1 Corinthians 12:27 and Galatians 6:10. These passages say that the church is like a body and a family. How important is it to experience life with other believers and use your gifts to build up the body?
- **HANDS - These questions help us bring truth and beliefs to our everyday.**
- Please read Acts 2:43-47.
- What priorities did the first Christian church have?
- What is one area of growth God is calling you to?

Group Prayer (15 Min)

Trios (20 Min)

Same gender groups of three. If numbers are uneven, go to groups of two.

- **Spiritual Velocity:**
 - How did you see God at work in your life this week?
 - What has God been teaching you in His Word as you've encountered it in this week's Life Journal readings, Sunday message, or LIFEGroup study?
 - What's an area of your life in which you know you need to repent or grow? How can we encourage you?
- **Joining Jesus on His Mission:**
 - What kind of conversations are you having with non-Christians? How's your 3-2-1 challenge going? Share about connections you're building and spiritual conversations you're having with non-believing neighbors and friends.
 - List the names of non-Christians in your life that you can pray for:

- What good can we do around here? (Missional party? Service project?)
- How can we help each other, our neighbors, and our city in prayer?