



WINTER 2026 // WEEK 1

GrowGroup Questions

Sermon Based Groups // February 1, 2026

Pastor Pat Finley // Matthew 16:13-20

Vision Sunday



Introduction

This Sunday is “Vision Sunday” at Grace Baptist Church, and we will be examining Peter’s Great Confession at Caesarea Philippi, and examining our part in Christ building His Church.

We encourage you to take some time to read through the questions on the following pages and jot down your thoughts before meeting with your group. Many people also find it helpful to use these questions as a guide for taking notes during the sermon. The purpose of these questions is to spark reflection and encourage meaningful conversation. Remember, you don’t need to work through every single question each week—focus on the ones that are most helpful for you and your group.

Getting Started

Transition into group discussion.

- 1) Open group discussion with prayer.
- 2) Choose someone to read the passage aloud for the group.

Study Questions *(Suggested time: 30-40 min)*

1. What was your favorite part of the message today? How did it speak to you?
2. Have you gone through a period or have you ever been tempted to not attend church regularly? What might you say to someone who struggles to make fellowship a priority?
3. In Matthew 16:18 The word for church is *Ekklesia* which means “called-out ones.” In ancient Greece, the secular usage referred to a legislative body, not a specific location. How might this change how we think about the following verses? Ephesians 5:25; Colossians 1:18; Revelation 1:4
4. Read Matt. 16:23 and 1 Peter 5:8. We see here that Peter spoke from experience in that even he can fall victim to demonic influences. How might this affect how you view those who have sinned against you in the past?

5. Jesus spent the lions-share of His time with His disciples. Why was this important for Him? How might this affect His preaching, and what can we learn from this?

Personal Spiritual Exercises

Scripture Focus: This week ask God what is your role in the vision of our church. Does God want you to do something different? Do exactly what you are doing? You're not sure? Be prepared to share your thoughts next week.

Prayer *(Suggested time: 10-15 min)*

A meaningful part of “coming together” is being open and genuine about our lives. For some, praying in a group may feel very natural, while for others it may feel new or uncomfortable. If you would prefer not to pray aloud, you’re welcome to pray silently and simply say “Amen” when you’re finished, signaling the next person to pray. Whether spoken or silent, every prayer is part of this shared time in God’s presence.

1. Pastor Pat shared some lofty inspired goals. Pray for our church to be an effective element of what God is doing to reach the lost.
2. Take a few moments to think about a prayer request. What are you currently going through that you are still waiting to see how God is going to be glorified? Consider making a prayer request.

*Where there is no vision, the people perish:
But he that keepeth the law, happy is he. Prov. 29:18 KJV*