

**Focus passage: Matthew 16:13-20**

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.” 20 Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

*What stands out to you from this passage?*

*What are the different things that people today say about Jesus? What would your friends say if they were asked, “Who is Jesus?”*

*Why do you think this is an important question?*

*What does Jesus mean when he says “flesh and blood has not revealed this to you”? How do we come to know the truth about Jesus Christ?*

**Read and discuss 1 Corinthians 2:6-10.** *Who guides us to know what so many do not understand?*

*Some understand this passage to be a description of how the church was built up on the leadership of Peter. Others understand “this rock” as referring back to Peter’s confession. If it is the latter interpretation, what does that mean?*

*How would you answer Jesus’ question, “Who do you say that I am?”*

*How can you apply this Scripture to your life?*

