

MATTHEW

November 6, 2022

Matthew 16:13-20

READ

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QUESTIONS for REFLECTION

1. What is unique about Caesarea Philippi as a fieldtrip destination for the disciples? (Do a little research.)
2. Why pose the question to the disciples (v. 13)?
3. What is significant about the responses (v. 14)? (What does this say about people's perceptions?)

Who do people today say that Jesus is? What influences these perceptions?

4. What is significant about the second question (v. 15)? (Why this question? Why now?)
5. Meditate on Peter's response (v. 16). What has Peter said? (What is the truth behind his confession?)

What is it that Peter (probably) does not yet understand about his confession?

6. In what way(s) is Peter blessed by his response (v. 17a)?

How might the Father have revealed this truth/reality to Peter (v. 17b)?

7. What is “this rock” upon which Jesus will build His church (v. 18a)?

8. Reflect on “the gates of Hades.” What is the picture painted by Jesus (v. 18b)? (How does this commonly get garbled?)

How are the gates of Hades prevailed over (Acts 2:24; Hebrews 2:9,14-15; Revelation 1:18; 1 Corinthians 15:56-57)?

9. What is the purpose of keys (v. 19)? How does Peter use them (c.f., Acts 1:8; 2:14-41; 8:14-24; 10:24-48)? (What do all three incidents have in common?)

How did Peter bind & loose (c.f., Romans 6:22)?

10. What are we to make of Jesus’ closing warning (v. 20)?

PERSONAL RESPONSE

I will listen for the voice of the Father this week by . . .

I will live the reality of the great confession this week by . . .