

LifeGroup Questions
Matthew 16: Come and See -- Jesus and the Church

1. Jesus called the church the people “called out to gather together” (ekklessia). In the New Testament we find that when we gather together we are Jesus’ body, Jesus’ bride, the dwelling place for the Holy Spirit, and the army of God. Which metaphor connects with you the most? Why?
2. In what ways has “the church” (could be Calvary or another part of Jesus’ church) encouraged or impacted you? And in what ways has it disappointed you? (And you can’t share a disappointment without also sharing an encouragement!)
3. Read Matthew 16:18-25. What do you think it means when Jesus says, “I will build my church and the gates of hell will not prevail against it?” What kind of church does it take to beat down the gates of hell?
4. Calvary’s mission statement is to help people live Gospel-centered lives connecting them to Christ, Community and their Calling. Which one of those connections is the strongest? Which needs the most work? What can you do about that?
5. In Matthew 16:13-18 Dan focused in on Jesus’ question, “who do people say that I am?” and then “who do you say that I am?” Who do the people in your circle say that Jesus is? Who do you say that he is? In what way does your view of Christ change your living vs. their view of Christ?
6. Again in vs 13-18, Peter makes his confession, “You are the Christ (King/Messiah) the son of the Living God.” If you can make that confession of faith in Christ, when you do, is it more a state of intellectual belief, or a statement of heart devotion and loyalty?
7. How are we doing at Calvary of making much of Christ, the son of the Living God? How do verses 21-25 help us make much of Christ?
8. Dan asked the question, “why shouldn’t the church be the Center of Attention in Central PA?” What needs to happen for the church to be the center of attention (in a good way!)?

