

FBC Groups Ministry Discussion Guide



From Simple Church? A Series Based on Matthew 16:18 **Part One: Essential Ingredients, Matthew 16:13–20**

What does it mean to be the church? When Jesus took off His tool belt to begin His earthly ministry, He promised that He would be the one to build His church. Many people missed it because of how they viewed Jesus from their past. Is there anything from your past that is causing you to miss what Jesus is building? Jesus gives us essential ingredients for His church in Matthew 16. Read Matt. 16:13–20.

With everything that comes to mind when we think about church:

There is no church without faith in Jesus

There is no church without the power of Jesus

There is no church without the mission of Jesus

Questions for Group Discussion:

1. Why did Jesus begin with the question about His identity?
2. Why is that question so important for the church?
3. How do these verses impact your view of church?
4. How is God helping you and leading you to be part of His church?
5. Why do we associate church with a building or a place we go?
6. What are other possible elements that make up a church?
7. Why is the power of Jesus often missing from the church?
8. How can we reclaim the influence of the church in society?

Final Thoughts and Closing Prayer:

What will I do to learn more about Jesus and His church this week?

How will I pray and live differently because of this study?

Notes & Reflections: