DIGGING **DEEPER**

Mt 16v13-28 – **Faith in Jesus's Identity**

PLEASE READ – Matthew 16v13-28

GETTING STARTED

Why is the warning we looked at last week in v6 and v11 so important given what we're looking at this week?

1) THE CONFESSION (v13-17)

Jesus asks an important question in v13. What's missing / lacking in the different responses that come back in v14?

How would your friends answer that question today? Be specific if you can…

Where does Peter's confession of faith come from? Why is that so important to grasp?

2) THE CROSS (v18-23)

What do you think 'this rock' refers to in v18? Note particularly what comes before in v17 and what happens after in v21-23

What are the keys to the Kingdom a symbol of? How does that fit with binding (forbidding) and loosing (allowing)?

That same authority is given to the church in Ch 18. Why is that important?

Why is Peter's rebuke in v23 so severe? What does that tell us about the absolute necessity of the cross?

3) **THE CALL** (v24-28)

Talk about the call to Christian discipleship in these verses. What do you find most challenging / humbling?

Meditate on the words of the Jesus below…

V24: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves, take up their cross and follow me.