



Reference: Matthew 16:13-18

Study Guide #2

September 18, 2016

"This is Who We Are: Jesus is Building His Church through Multiplication"

ICE BREAKER

Share a situation when you were the only person who could intervene in some difficult situation and prevent a tragedy or something bad from occurring. What would have happened if you hadn't intervened and how did you feel about taking the initiative in that situation?

QUESTIONS

- 1) Salem's Vision is for believers to Connect in Worship, Grow in Groups, Serve on Teams and Go... How has that worked for you this week?
- 2) Today's focus is on "multiplying churches." What do you see God doing in New York City? Do you know of any churches being planted here? What are you hearing?
- 3) Tim Keller, the pastor of one of the largest multisite churches in New York City has written that planning new churches "is the single most crucial strategy for 1) the numerical growth of the body of Christ in a city, and 2) the continual corporate renewal and revival of the existing churches in a city." Why do you think this is true?
- 4) New York City is the most diverse city in the world, with many different ethnic groups, languages and religions. Read Matthew 16:13-14 to consider one reason why churches need to multiply.
- 5) How did Peter answer Jesus' question, "But who do you say that I am?" and what is another reason why churches need to multiply? Read Matthew 16:15-16 and 1 Peter 3:15.
- 6) Salem Church needs to multiply. Read Matthew 16:17-18 to determine:
 - a. Who will build the Church?
 - b. To whom does the Church belong?



- 7) Read 1 Corinthians 3:5-9. According to Paul:
- What is the role of the believers in the church?
 - How does faith grow in the heart of a believer after hearing the Gospel?
- 8) Pastor J.D. Greear wrote: “Multiplying campuses is not an alternative to church planting; it is an alternative to multiplying services, building a larger building or turning people away.” How does this statement help a church understand the next steps to take as it is growing?
- 9) If you are a believer what do you see yourself doing to spread the Gospel, or if you are not sure where you are in your faith journey, what could be your next steps?