

## Confessing the Confession (Matthew 16:13-20)

Introduction: *Confessing the Faith on a surgery table...*

- I. PETER WAS ASKED BY JESUS: *Who do you say I am?*
  - A. Peter replies: *You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God*
  - B. Others at that time had many other opinions...
  - C. “Close but no cigar” is not close enough re: who Jesus is
  
- II. THE WORLD ASKS US TODAY: *Who do you say Jesus is?*
  - A. Former LCMS President: *Get it straight and get it out!*
  - B. Having right doctrine and not sharing it is NOT having right doctrine
  - C. We, like Peter deny Jesus...
  
- III. BUT OUR LORD USES “PETERS” LIKE US TODAY
  - A. Jesus calls flawed sinners (like you & me) to confess Him today
  - B. He sees us through “the lens of the Cross...”
  - C. Jesus is the message and the means
  - D. The simple but powerful confession is this: **The forgiveness of sins** (v.19)
  - E. This is called *The Office of the Keys* (v.19)
  - F. Jesus gives us as he gave Peter a wonderful promise to empower our confession

Conclusion: *Whether on a surgery table, on a mission trip, in our daily lives...*