

Who Do YOU Say Jesus Is? (Matthew 16:13-20)

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

- I. PETER WAS ASKED BY JESUS: *WHO DO YOU SAY I AM?*
 - A. Peter confesses: **“You are the Christ, the Son of the living God”** (v.16)
 - B. Others at that time had many other opinions (v.14)
 - C. *“Close but no cigar”* is not close enough when has to do with who Jesus is

- II. THE WORLD ASKS US TODAY: *WHO DO YOU SAY JESUS IS?*
 - A. Correct doctrine about who Jesus is very much needed today
 - B. We are to *“get it straight and get it out”* [former LCMS President]
 - C. Having right doctrine & not sharing it is **not** having right doctrine
 - D. We, like Peter deny knowing Jesus by word and deed (Matthew 26)

- III. OUR LORD USES “PETERS” LIKE US TO CONFESS THE FAITH
 - A. Jesus calls flawed sinners to confess Him before the world
 - B. He sees us through the “lens of the cross”: forgiven & precious
 - C. It is true for Peter & for us: Jesus builds His Church on the **rock solid confession of the Faith... “and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it”** (v.18)
 - D. The substance of our confession: the forgiveness of sins in Jesus’ name (v.19)

Conclusion: *Whether on a surgery table or in our daily lives we confess the Faith...*