

## Session 8 Viewer Guide

### DISCUSS

[Jesus] asked them, "who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." Jesus responded, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overpower it." MATTHEW 16:15-18

#### **1) How does this passage help us realize the power we have in bold gospel confession?**

Peter's confession that Jesus is the Messiah is the cornerstone of the church. For two millennia the church has advanced by clinging to this confession as its organizing principle. Jesus promised that if we're faithful in our confession we'll be able to advance deeper and deeper into enemy territory. We'll be unstoppable if we "hold on to the confession of our hope without wavering, since he who promised is faithful" (Heb. 10:23).

Whatever you ask in my name, I will do it so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it. JOHN 14:13-14

#### **2) Why should Jesus' willingness to give us what we ask in prayer lead us to take great risks for the kingdom? What keeps you from taking risks?**

Any kingdom advancement comes with risk. That's why we pray. Jesus desires to glorify the Father. When we pray in accordance with that desire, Jesus will be faithful to answer our request. Therefore, we're ultimately secure, no matter what risk we take. Champions of the gospel have to get comfortable with risk.

#### **3) On the video J. D. said Jesus isn't content to be Lord of the church as it exists right now. He died to be Lord of the entire earth. Why should this fact compel us to keep the gospel above all?**

- 4) Do you tend to think of the whole world as Jesus' territory, or do you limit Him by the risks you don't take or by the prayers you don't pray?**

Jesus has placed a promise on the confession of the gospel. We should never be satisfied when so many people are lost in our community and our world. The whole world is Jesus' territory. The church has received the power of heaven to bring the kingdom of heaven to bear on earth. This happens as we continue to elevate the gospel above all.

- 5) The purpose of this study has been to lead you to recommit to the gospel. What has most convicted and challenged you in these eight weeks of study?**
- 6) Based on the conviction you expressed, how will you continue to respond in the weeks to come?**