

# THE CHURCH

## Matthew 16:18

The glory of the gospel is that when the church is absolutely different from the world, she invariably attracts it.

-Martyn Lloyd-Jones

*What can we learn about the church based on the very first time that Jesus mentioned it?*

### The Church's...

#### I. **Builder** ("I will build my church...")

*Who is Jesus?* (Mt. 16:16) (Mt. 21:42; 1 Peter 2:4-6)

Keeping it simple: The church exists because of Jesus – so keep Him front and center!

#### II. **Beginning** ("I will build my church...")

*Who did Jesus use to build His Church?* (Mt. 16:17-18a, 22-23; Eph. 2:20) (Acts 2:36-41; 4:11-12)

Keeping it simple: The church grows when the gospel of Jesus is proclaimed – so keep the Gospel front and center!

### III. **Bond** (“I will build my church...”)

*Who does Jesus call to be part of His Church?* (1 Peter 2:9-10)  
(Mt. 16:18)

Keeping it simple: The church gathers to express the bond they have in Jesus – so keep the importance of true Christian fellowship front and center!

### IV. **Battle** (“...and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”)

*Who does Jesus commission to engage in the spiritual battle surrounding His Church?* (Mt. 16:18-19; Hebrews 2:14-15)

Keeping it simple: The church battles the realm of Satan, sin, and death in order to bring new life through the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ – so keep strategic, aggressive, intentional evangelism front and center!