

Upon this Rock week 5
April 1, 2018

Matthew 16:18 (NLT) Now I say to you that you are Peter (which means 'rock'), and upon this rock I will build my church, and all the powers of hell will not conquer it.

Acts 2:41 (NLT, pg. 907) Those who believed what Peter said were baptized and added to the church that day—about 3,000 in all.

Mark 16:1-8 (pg. 847)

Instructions from the angel:

1. Don't be _____.
2. Tell the disciples, including _____.
3. Do what _____ told you to do.

Mark 16:8a (NLT) The women fled from the tomb, trembling and bewildered, and they said nothing to anyone because they were too frightened.

Don't let _____ hold you back from fulfilling what God needs you to do.

1 John 4:18-19 (NLT, pg. 1033) Such love has no fear, because perfect love expels all fear. If we are afraid, it is for fear of punishment, and this shows that we have not fully experienced his perfect love. We love each other because he loved us first.

John 20:1-10 (pg. 901)

John 20:9 (NLT) ...for until then they still hadn't understood the Scriptures that said Jesus must rise from the dead.

There is a big difference between _____ and understanding; ...

...understanding moves you to _____.

James 1:22 (NLT, pg. 1019) But don't just listen to God's word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves.

John 21:1-14 (pg. 902)

Even when you know what you are doing; God's way will turn out _____.

Matthew 4:18-20 (NLT, pg. 801) One day as Jesus was walking along the shore of the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers—Simon, also called Peter, and Andrew—throwing a net into the water, for they fished for a living. Jesus called out to them, "Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!" And they left their nets at once and followed him.

John 21:15-19 (pg. 902)

God's plan of redemption was motivated by love and covers all of our sin, and all he asks of us is to _____.

John 21:19b (NLT) Then Jesus told him, "Follow me."

Final Thought: Following Jesus means we believe, we accept His love and grace, and we _____ closer to Him every day no matter what. Are you ready to join the _____?

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What is your favorite Easter tradition? As our culture moves further away from being a “Christian nation”, do you see people’s attitudes changing toward religious holidays like Easter and Christmas? Why or why not? How was Easter unique this year for you? Explain.

Is it surprising that fear was an issue for those involved in the Easter story? Why or why not? Do you think the disciples were as fearful as the women at the tomb? What kind of role does fear have in your life? Read 1 John 4:18-19. What concepts do you see in these verses that can help you to move forward in your journey without fear?

How would you explain the difference between knowing and understanding in your own words? What has been the key for you to move from knowing to understanding? Explain. Read Luke 24:13-34. Obviously, these men knew a lot about Jesus, but they didn’t understand. How did Jesus help them to understand? (look at verse 27) Reread verse 32. What do you think they meant by “our hearts burn within us” as Jesus helped them understand? Have you ever felt this way as scripture and God’s ways make sense? Describe your experience.

Read Matthew 16:20. These words were among the last that Jesus spoke on earth to the disciples. Peter lead the charge in fulfilling this job with the first century church, and we are all supposed to continue that mission today. What have you learned from this message series that will help you fulfill the great commission? What action step is needed to journey closer to Christ? Will you take that step this next week?