

Discussion Questions
Matt 16:13 -17:23

1. Make a list of the people mentioned when Jesus asked his disciples “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” What do they have in common?

2. What is the next question Jesus puts before his disciples? What is the significance of him beginning the next question with the word “But” ...?

3. What was Peter’s answer and what does Jesus say is the source of that revelation?
 - a. As one commentator says, “Stop for a minute. If we are honest, this truth may leave us cold. It is little more than a statement to give mental assent: it doesn’t grip our hearts, or still our emotions...Yet here is the most important question you will ever have to answer ...Who Do YOU Say Jesus Is? “

 - b. If you are not sure, make it your prayer as you continue to study Matthew’s gospel that God would reveal to you what it means that Jesus is The Promised Messiah.

4. Read *Matthew 16:18*. This is one of the most debated verses in all the Scriptures. *What are some viable understandings of these verses and what are their implications?*

5. **To whom does the word “rock” refer in the following verses:**
 - a. Psalm 18:2
 - b. Acts 4:10–
 - c. 1 Corinthians 10:4
 - d. Romans 9:33
 - e. Ephesians 2:20,

6. Read Mat 16:21-28. How does Jesus' view of what it means to be the Promised Messiah conflict with Peter's view?
 - a. What is Jesus' response to Peter and why?
 - b. In verses 24-27, what does Jesus say is necessary if we are to follow Him? Consider also Gal 6:14 and Heb 12:2 in your answer.
7. How might the story of Jesus' transfiguration in Matthew 17:1-8 clarify part of what Jesus meant in Mat 16:16:28? Consider 2 Peter 1:16-18 with your answer.
8. Read Exodus 24:12-18. What parallels do you see with Matthew 17:1-8? Consider what this teaches about Jesus.
9. **PERSONAL: In light of this week's teaching in the Gospel of Matthew:**
 - a. If you have yet to come to believe in and follow Jesus, how do Jesus' words in verse 24-28 impact your thinking? Are you setting your mind on the things of God or the things of Man?
 - b. If you are already a follower of Jesus, how has your life been impacted by the truth of Jesus' word in verses 24-28?