

“I WILL BUILD  
MY CHURCH”

Matthew 16:18

# “I will build my church”

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- August, 1997 – Our first Bible study
- October, 1998 – Our first service
- 20 years – 1% of church history

# “I will build my church”

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- “Church” is used 2x in the 4 Gospels
- Here the *ekklesia* seed is planted, and it grows throughout the NT

# “I will build my church”

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- The church is not a physical building
- The church is a *spiritual* building

MATTHEW 16:13 – 17:9

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*Scripture Reading*

# 1. Christ is Building His Church (v. 18)

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- “I” – Jesus is the Builder
  - Psalm 127:1 & Zechariah 4:6
- “My” – Jesus is the Owner
  - Acts 20:28
  - Pictures of the church always highlight the preeminence of Jesus

## 2. Christ is Building His Church through the Truth (vv. 13-17)

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- Divine revelation (*vs. human opinion*)
- Divine illumination (*vs. human insight*)
- Apostolic teaching
  - Acts 2:42; 20:32
  - Ephesians 2:20

### 3. Christ is Building His Church through the Cross (vv. 21 ff.)

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- Christology 101: *His Person*
- Christology 102: *His Work*
- The Cross had to precede the Church
  - Peter's Temptation – vv. 21-23
  - Transfiguration – Luke 9:31
  - Rejected Cornerstone – Ps 118:22



# 4. Christ is Building His Church through the Spirit

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- Future Tense Verb: “I will build”
- *Timing*: Future, not Past or Present
  - Unfinished at Ascension
  - Inaugurated at Pentecost
- *Certainty*: Promise, not Intention

# 5. Christ is Building His Church through the Church

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- Peter / Keys / Binding & Loosing
- The Church = Building & Builders
  - Pastors are Subs (1 Cor 3:9-17)
  - EMM – living stones (1 Pet 2:4-5)
  - EMM – edification  
*Eph 4:12, 16, 29; Rom 15:2; 1 Cor 8:1; 14:4, 12, 26; 2 Cor 13:10; 1 Thes 5:11*

## 6. Christ is Building His Church through Evangelism (v. 18b)

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- “The gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”
- The power of the church is the power of the gospel (Rom 1:16)
  - Offense, not Defense
  - An Army, not a Monastery

# JOHN CALVIN

“This promise is, as it were, the sound of a trumpet, calling us to be always ready and prepared for battle.”

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# SABINE BARING-GOULD

“Gates of hell can never  
'Gainst that church prevail!  
We have Christ's own promise,  
And it cannot fail!”

# Conclusion

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- PAST: *Soli Deo Gloria*. All glory goes to the Owner & Builder.
- FUTURE: Engage. Put on a hard hat and get to work in Christ's church!
- URGENT: If you don't yet know Christ as your Savior, repent of your sins and trust in Jesus as your only hope today.