

## Royal Redeemer Going Deeper Guide

Based on the sermon for March 9, 2025  
That's a Great Question: Who Do You Say I Am?



**For personal reflection or for use as a devotion with a CGS Community or family**

- **Begin by reflecting on/sharing a high and/or a low from your week**
- **CONNECT** *with each other*
  - Share your thoughts about giving something up for Lent and how successful that's been for you.
- **GROW** *in Christ (Read the following scripture from Matthew 16: 13-20)*

“<sup>13</sup> When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, ‘Who do people say the Son of Man is?’ <sup>14</sup> They replied, ‘Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.’ <sup>15</sup> ‘But what about you?’ he asked. ‘Who do you say I am?’ <sup>16</sup> Simon Peter answered, ‘You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.’ <sup>17</sup> Jesus replied, ‘Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. <sup>18</sup> And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. <sup>19</sup> I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.’ <sup>20</sup> Then he ordered his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.”

- Share any words or phrases that speak into your life today.
  - In verse 14 the disciples’ response indicated that the people of their day viewed Jesus with high regard, but not as the promised Messiah. Why was that?
  - Name some non-Christian religions today who hold the same view as that voiced in verse 14.
  - Scholars tell us that the literature from Palestinian Judaism did not make the connection between the Messiah and God. How might that explain what Jesus said in verse 17?
  - The “rock” that Jesus says He will build His church on in verse 18 is Peter’s confession that Jesus is the Messiah the Son of God. Peter’s name and the word translated rock have the same Greek root. How might this cause some people to misinterpret Jesus as saying that He will build His church on the man Peter?
  - The keys of the Kingdom of Heaven in verse 19 is the Gospel of Christ which Peter proclaimed. How does that explain the “binding” and “loosing” Jesus refers to in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of that verse?
  - What might some reasons be for Jesus ordering His disciples not to tell anyone that He was the Messiah in verse 20? What happened at Pentecost that then allowed them to tell others? (See Acts 2: 1-4)
- **SERVE** *others*

How might God want to use you to share the truth about Jesus being the Son of God and the salvation that he won for all? Look for opportunities and do that!

- **End with Prayer, the Lord's Prayer, or a short Blessing**