

Matthew
Gail Arterburn –2026

Monday, 9:30 – 11:00 am
To be discussed –06/15/26

Matthew - Lesson 22
Matthew 16:1-20

1. Read Matthew 16:1-4. Why did the Pharisees and Sadducees come to Jesus once again? What did they ask for?
2. How did Jesus answer them? What was his point? Would such a “sign from heaven” have changed their attitude and brought them to faith?
3. What do you think you need from Jesus before you are willing to follow him completely or trust him in your circumstances and situations?
4. Read Matthew 16:5-12. As Jesus and the disciples crossed the lake, what was Jesus thinking about? (vv. 5-6) What were the disciples thinking about? (v. 7) Why did they misunderstand? Before being too critical of the disciples, have you ever been so pre-occupied with your daily needs, problems, circumstances, etc., that you and the Lord were not on the same page?
5. What was Jesus warning them about? How does that warning apply to believers today?
6. Read Matthew 16:13-20. What was the first question Jesus asked his disciples? What was their answer? What would the general public say today? Is public opinion a reliable source of information about Jesus Christ?
7. What was his second question? What was Peter’s answer? What would be your answer?
8. According to verse 17, how did Peter come to his understanding?
9. Verses 18-19 are difficult and have various interpretations. How would you answer the following:
 - What/who is the rock upon which Jesus will build his church? (Peter, Peter’s confession of faith, person of Christ, etc.?)

- What is the church? Is it the same as the kingdom of heaven?
- What does it mean that *the gates of Hades will not overcome it*?
- What are the keys of the kingdom of heaven? Is Peter the only one who has them?
- How would you explain the last part of v. 19 (binding and loosening)
- Why did he warn his disciples not to tell anyone he was the Christ?