

April 5, 2021

Outline of April Focus at **Apostolic Faith Church**

WE CONTINUE TO BE TRANSFORMED AND TO TRANSFORM

A LIVING CHURCH FOR A DYING WORLD

Matt 16:18

“And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.” (KJV)

This is of course the critical exchange between Jesus and his disciples, and in particular between Jesus and Peter.

The question that Jesus raised was this... *Who do people say I the Son of man am?*

Then of course, the critical personal question. *Who do you say that I AM?*

Peter's answer, as the Lord indicated, came not from his human reasoning or understanding, but from God. *“You are the promised Messiah or Savior. You are God, manifested in human flesh.”*

The Lord Jesus then gave to Peter and to all of mankind one of the most profound, insightful, powerful messages, that God has ever revealed to mankind.... *“Peter, you are a stone, and upon this Rock (the revelation of who I AM) ...I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH, AND ALL THE FORCES OF EVIL SHALL TRY AND FAIL IN THEIR ATTEMPT TO DEFEAT IT!”*

The church, Christ's Church is the remedy that God has determined will be instrumental to BRINGING LIFE TO A DYING WORLD!

Over the next month, I invite you to join us as we shall by the grace of God explore important aspects of the Church of Jesus Christ. We will begin by opening our hearts to God and exploring in prayer, scripture, and discussion what was the original intention and plan of the Lord Jesus, as He introduces this powerful idea to His disciples. **Exactly how do we define THE CHURCH? What is it called to be and what is it expected to do? Who is a part of God's church? How are we to exist and live in this dying world?**

Do we dare open our hearts and souls to God through the Holy Spirit and begin to understand His evaluation of His Church? Do we dare seek God with corporate authenticity, spiritual energy, humility and courage to hear His evaluation and adapt and modify what we are doing so that we will become more effective and He will be pleased with us.... HIS CHURCH?

I IMPLORE YOU TO TAKE THIS CHALLENGE WITH ME!

Your Pastor, Bishop Horace E. Smith, M.D.