**Why the Church?**

**Matthew 16:13–18 (NLT)**

1. **We need a Rock.**

* The church is built on Jesus, the Rock.
* Jesus is the Rock that was with Israel, the Old Testament church.
* 1 Corinthians 10:3–4 (NLT) All of them ate the same spiritual food, 4 and all of them drank the same spiritual water. For they drank from the spiritual rock that traveled with them, and that rock was Christ.
* Jesus is the cornerstone of the church.

1. **We need to be like the Rock.**

* Peter was not the Rock but was strong like the Rock.
* Jesus will show His strength in your weakness.
* Jesus will take your failures to make you strong.

1. **We need to be the rocks.**

* We need to be the church not just go to church.
* 1 Peter 2:4–5 (NLT) You are coming to Christ, who is the living cornerstone of God’s temple. He was rejected by people, but he was chosen by God for great honor. 5 And you are living stones that God is building into his spiritual temple. What’s more, you are his holy priests. Through the mediation of Jesus Christ, you offer spiritual sacrifices that please God.
* Jesus uses us to build His church.
* Why the Church? We need Jesus and each other.