

**Sermon Series: "Oneness of Purpose" – 2020 HCHB Theme**

**Message Summary:** Church was God's idea. It's His plan. Jesus Christ is the founder, architect, builder, owner, and director of the church. Today we look at the first mention of the church in the Bible and consider our spiritual origins. As we listen into a conversation between Jesus and His followers, let's also rediscover our spiritual roots as the people of God. You'll discover that in New Testament terms, both Christian and church are synonymous--one implies the other.

## **Jesus Started The Church**

Matthew 16:13-18

### **1. Jesus Names It--*Its Designation***

### **2. Jesus Builds It--*Its Foundation***

### **3. Jesus Owns It--*Its Possession***

### **4. Jesus Keeps It--*Its Preservation***

#### **LifeGroup Questions:**

BEGIN IT – (5min) Sing praise to the Lord & pray that God leads the study.

OPEN IT- (10min) If you could ask any person any question, whom would you ask, and what would you want to know?

EXPLORE IT- (60min) Read Matthew 16:13-18 and review Sunday's sermon outline together and add addition notes people made about the message.

1. What does the Greek word for church *ekklesia* mean?
2. Jesus never promised that *your church* will continue to survive in society--but He did promise that *His church* will survive and thrive. What does that mean in light of modern research concerning church growth and development?
3. Why should churches not be discouraged in their efforts to carry out God's work?
4. The church isn't something you *attend*, it's something you *become*. Would you say you're just attending or are you becoming the Church? Which do you prefer most and why?
5. How has your view of the Church changed since attending Hope Chapel?
6. What part in the building of Christ's Church do you have now?

APPLY IT- (15min) What can you do or say to help a friend overcome an erroneous idea about the Church this week?