

The Messiah

Jesus



¹³When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say the Son of Man is?”

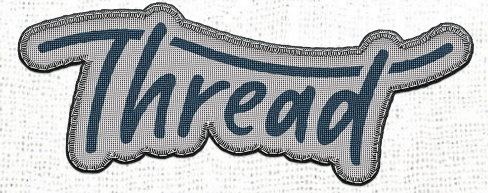
¹⁴They replied, “Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”

¹⁵“But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am?”

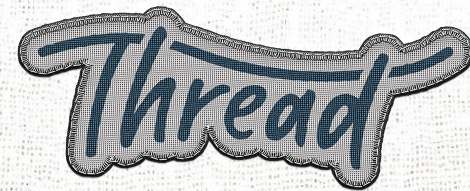
¹⁶Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”

¹⁷Jesus 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. ¹⁸And I tell you that you are Peter, ^b and on this rock, I will build my church, and the gates of Hades ^c will not overcome it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be ^d bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be ^e loosed in heaven.” ²⁰Then he ordered his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Matthew 16:13-20(NIV)



The Question that Confronts Us All
Who do you say I am?



The Transformation that Follows

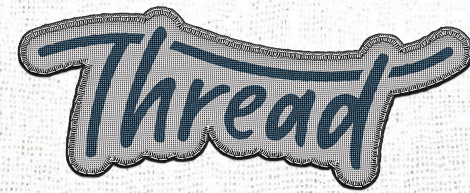
“On this rock I will build my church.” (Matt 16:18)

When We Are Certain of Who Christ Is



- We **listen** to Him
 - Aligning our choices with His teaching.
- We **reflect** His character
 - Love, Faith, Service, Perseverance
- We **live** as He lived
 - With Intentionality
 - Living by His Word not by emotion; seeking God's will above our own

Allow ourselves to be shaped by God



The Cross that Refines Us



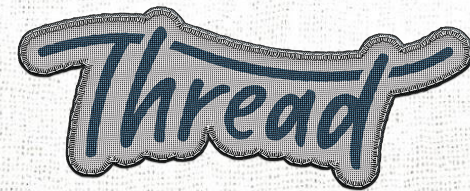
“²¹From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life. ²²Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. “Never, Lord!” he said. “This shall never happen to you!” ²³Jesus turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.” ²⁴Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵For whoever wants to save their life *f* will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. ²⁶What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? ²⁷For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father’s glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what they have done. ²⁸“Truly I tell you, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

Matthew 16:21-28(NIV)



- Being transformed into the likeness of Christ means embracing the cross, not avoiding it.
- Every act of sacrifice, every burden borne in faith, every trial endured with trust — shapes us to look more like Jesus.

Allow ourselves to be shaped by God



The Calling that Compels Us





“¹After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. ²There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. ³Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus.

⁴Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.”

*⁵While he was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, “**This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!**”*

⁶When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown to the ground, terrified. ⁷But Jesus came and touched them. “Get up,” he said. “Don’t be afraid.” ⁸When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus.”

