

Elements in our philosophy of ministry:

- I. A RIGHT VIEW OF GOD**
- II. A RIGHT VIEW OF MAN**
- III. A RIGHT VIEW OF SCRIPTURE**
- IV. A RIGHT VIEW OF THE CHURCH**

*UNDER CONSTRUCTION*

*Matthew 16:13-20*

*ekklesia* – ‘called out from’

New Testament = *church*

*Universal ekklesia*

*Local ekklesia*

What makes the church unique?

## 1. A UNIQUE FOUNDATION

*13 Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea  
Philippi...*

What makes the church unique?

## 1. A UNIQUE FOUNDATION

*13...He was asking His disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" 14 And they said, "Some say John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; but still others, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets."*

What makes the church unique?

## 1. A UNIQUE FOUNDATION

*15 He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” 16 Simon Peter answered, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”*

What makes the church unique?

## 1. A UNIQUE FOUNDATION

*17 And Jesus said to him, “Blessed are you, Simon Barjona...*

*Barjona* = ‘son of John’

What makes the church unique?

## 1. A UNIQUE FOUNDATION

*17...because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.*



What makes the church unique?

## 1. A UNIQUE FOUNDATION

*18 “I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church;*

*Peter = petros = masculine = rock*

*rock = feminine = petra*

What makes the church unique?

## 1. A UNIQUE FOUNDATION

*18 “I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church;*

Aramaic = *kepa*

‘You are *kepa*, and upon this *kepa* I will build my church.’

What makes the church unique?

## 1. A UNIQUE FOUNDATION

*Eph 2:19–20 - 19...you...are of God's household, 20 having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone...*

*1 Pet 2:5 - you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house...*

What makes the church unique?

## 2. A UNIQUE CERTAINTY

*18...I WILL build my church...*

*John 6:37 - All that the Father gives Me will come to Me...*

*Acts 13:48 - as many as had been appointed to eternal life believed.*

What makes the church unique?

## 2. A UNIQUE CERTAINTY

*18...and the gates of Hades will not overpower it.*

*Hades* corresponds to the Hebrew *sheol*.

*Sheol*...and thus *Hades*...do not mean 'hell.'

Instead – it refers to the *realm of the dead*.

*gates of Hades = death*

What makes the church unique?

### 3. A UNIQUE OWNERSHIP

*18...I will build MY church –*

*Acts 20:28 - To pastors, Paul says to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.*

1. We have intimacy **WITH** Christ.
2. We have a responsibility **TO** Christ.
3. We have an expectation **FROM** Christ.

What makes the church unique?

#### 4. A UNIQUE AUTHORITY

*19 “I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven;*

*keys here refers to closing and opening...or...locking and unlocking...& thus ENTERING or NOT ENTERING.*

In this case – entering or not entering the kingdom, which is the rule of God.

What makes the church unique?

#### 4. A UNIQUE AUTHORITY

*19...and whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven.”*



What makes the church unique?

#### 4. A UNIQUE AUTHORITY

*20 Then He warned the disciples that they should tell no one that He was the Christ.*

*John 18:36 - Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, then My servants would be fighting so that I would not be handed over to the Jews; but as it is, My kingdom is not of this realm."*

## IMPLICATIONS:

1. **BE ENCOURAGED**
2. **BE FOCUSED**
3. **BE BOLD**
4. **BE GRACIOUS**

*2 Tim 2:24–26 - The Lord's bond-servant must not be quarrelsome, but be kind to all, able to teach, patient when wronged, 25 with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition, if perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth, 26 and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will.*

*Col 4:5–6 - Conduct yourselves with wisdom toward outsiders...6 Let your speech always be with grace, as though seasoned with salt, so that you will know how you should respond to each person.*