

SERMON NOTES

Guest Speaker: Building His House

Ps Joel Holm
Nexus Church
26 JULY 2026

Matt 16:13-19; 1 Pet 2:5

ice breaker

If you had to describe who Jesus is to you right now in one word or short phrase, what would you say?

overview

- See beyond yourself from what Jesus does *for* you to what He does *through* you.
- We are *living stones*: uniquely crafted by the Lord and intentionally placed together.
- Be built together as many people with one mission.
- God's Kingdom is within us.
- Jesus wants us! He calls the willing (**Mark 3**).

the two conversions

This sermon proposed two sides to conversion:

1. **Receiving salvation in Christ for our own needs.**
2. **Living from salvation for the sake of others and seeing the world through Jesus' eyes.**

Consider and discuss what needs to shift in your heart to see the people around you the way God sees them?

go deeper

In **Matt 16**, Jesus asks Peter a question that cuts straight to the heart. Rather than, “*Who do others say I am?*” Jesus asks Peter, “*Who do you say I am?*”

Peter’s personal revelation of Jesus becomes the foundation on which Christ begins to build His Church. What if the invitation Jesus extended to Peter is the same invitation He extends to us today?

This sermon explores what it means to be a living stone, a spiritual house, and a holy priesthood (**1 Peter 2:5**). These are not merely poetic descriptions, but a blueprint for how the Lord builds His Church through ordinary, imperfect people. We as the Church are not defined by buildings or attendance, but by the way the Lord builds through us in our respective homes, workplaces, neighbourhoods, and communities.

We are challenged to consider seeing the world through the lens of Jesus, from attending to constructing, from spectating to participating. As we say yes to that which God is building, we discover authority and dimensions of Jesus we would never encountered otherwise.

discussion

- 1** Ps Joel suggested that Jesus called those He wanted, not those He needed. How does this change the way you see yourself to know that Jesus *wants* you, rather than Him needing your skills or qualifications?
- 2** With regard to gathering as the Church, consider if there are any ways in which you are *physically present* but not yet *connected*? Could be anything from vulnerability in relationship, to serving, etc.

discussion cont.

- 3** Do you have any fears that hold you back from stepping into conversations about faith? Consider your response from the lenses of conversations with both believers and non-believers alike.
- 4** How might your understanding of *being* the Church change if you saw it as something you carry with you into everyday life?
- 5** What could it look like to build the Church through your relationships, workplace, home, and community?

application

Choose one of the following to commit to before your group meets again:

Count the Conversations

- Have one intentional, genuine conversation this week with someone outside your regular faith community. Rather than a gospel presentation, simply take the time to genuinely connect and share what the Lord has done in you.

Take What You Love

- Identify something you love (sport, cooking, hospitality, a hobby) and find one practical way to use it this week to build a relationship with someone who doesn't yet know Jesus.

closing prayer

- Each person to share one name from someone in their world who needs Jesus. Pray over those names together.
- Any other specific prayer points across the group.