

*Following Peter*  
**To the Gates of Hell**  
Matthew 16:13-20

The Church as a Forever Family Purchased by Jesus

*"You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth." (Revelation 5:9b-10 spoken of Jesus)*

The Universal Reality of Death Has No Ultimate Claim Over Us

*"Death has been swallowed up in victory.*

*Where, O Death is your victory?*

*Where, O Death is your sting?*

*The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." (1 Corinthians 15:54b-56)*

The Message of Life we Proclaim Concerning Jesus

*"I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; **he has crossed over from death to life.**" (John 5:24 - emphasis mine)*

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**Point to Ponder:** Who do we say Jesus is? Would our answer to that question be something that if shared and believed, move someone from death to life?

**Next Week:** Next Sunday we will continue our sermon series entitled *Following Peter* by considering **Mark 9:2-10** 'To the Mount of Transfiguration.'

