

## Serving Faith

Pastor Stan 19 Aug 2018

Scripture Text: Matthew 16:13-26, also--Matthew 16:13-17:13;  
Mark 8:27-9:13; Luke 9:18-36

### 1. Introduction

### 2. S\_\_\_\_\_ faith—confessing Christ (Matthew 16: 13– 20)

- a. (v. 13) **Who do people say the son of man is?**
- b. (v. 14) **But who do you say I am?**
- c. (v. 16) Peter's answer
- d. This answer of knowing and confessing Jesus as the living God is the bedrock of our faith. (Romans 10:9-10)

### 3. S\_\_\_\_\_ faith—following Christ (Matthew 16: 21– 28)

- a. What is serving faith?
- b. Jesus connects “taking up the cross” with following him. (Matthew 16:24-25)
- c. “Taking up the cross” is putting the will of the Father above our own desires.
  - i. Is it your practice to place God first in your life, above all else?
  - ii. In reality serving God is an exchange (Matthew 16:24-26)
  - iii. How are we to succeed at “taking up our cross”?

4. Application (Use these questions to guide your own consideration or discussion in a small group.)
- a. Have you received saving faith?
  - b. What “cross” do you face as you move forward in obedience to God?
  - c. Are you applying serving faith?
  - d. Which of these resources are you actively using to help you move forward in obedience to God’s call on your life?
    - i. Being transformed (Romans 12:1-2)
    - ii. Prayer
    - iii. Relying on the Holy Spirit
    - iv. Are you actively involved in the church? Both attending and serving?