1 November 2026 **Rock Solid** Stuart Henderson

Matthew 16:13-28

READ v13-19: **Through Peter a rock-solid Declaration of who Jesus is.**

Q. Why do you think people were so diversely confused about who Jesus was? vv13-14

Q If somebody asked you what does the word Christ mean? How would you reply in your own words and what OT scriptures would you refer too?

Q What did Peter understand when he said "You are the Son of the living God"? (Cf Matthew 1:22-23, John 1:1-2,14, Col 1:15-19)

Q What does Jesus response to Peter in v17 tell us about Peter and God in the light of Matt 11:25-26?

"You are Peter (petros) and <u>on this rock</u> (petra) I will build my church." Petros means rock. Petra is the rock-foundation in the story of the wise man building his house on the rock in Matt 7:24-25.

3 views of who/ what "this rock" is in v18

- Christ is the foundation on which He will build his church
- Peter is the foundation on which Christ will build his church
- Peters' confession is the foundation on which Christ will build his church

Q. Do you have respectfully have a preferred interpretation / conviction?

In Peter a rock-solid Leader for Christ to use to build his church

What do keys symbolise?

How were keys of knowledge related to entering or not entering the kingdom in Luke 11:52?

How do we see Peter use the keys of the kingdom of heaven given to him? To the Jews Acts 2:14,37-41 For the Gentiles Acts 10"1-6,34-35, 44--48, 15:7

In Peter a rock-Solid Disciple with human flaws

READ 20-23c

Q Why do you think Jesus strictly commanded his disciples not to tell the nation he was the Christ?

Q Why might Peter have been so forcefully wrong towards Jesus and his calling?

READ 24-27 **All rock- solid Disciples will take up their own cross and follow their saviour- king**

Q. What from these 3 verses stands out to you as a word for your Christian life from Christ about your season of life. In what specific way can you see they impact on how you will live today? This week?