

## **DTR: DEFINE THE RELATIONSHIP**

**Pastor Bill Bowers | March 11, 2018**

### ***Who Do You Say That I Am?***

**Scripture:** Matthew 16:13-20

1. We prevail through **presence**.
2. We prevail through **prayer**.
3. We prevail through **proclamation**.
  - We need to be a church that is **on the offensive**, without **being offensive**.

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### ***Who Do You Say That I Am?***

#### **HOMEGROUP & PERSONAL STUDY QUESTIONS**

1. Ask yourself, “Who do you say that Jesus is?” After giving (or writing) out your response, compare the various areas of your life to what you profess about Jesus. Does your actual life (the way you live with friends, family, workplace, hobbies, finance, health practices, etc.) reflect what your stated belief is about Jesus?
2. What do you think is meant by “presence”? How would you describe practicing the presence of God? Do you think it is possible to be present to God 24/7? Please explain your answer.
3. Define what prayer is to you. Would you share your practices of prayer? How often do you pray? What do you think the apostle Paul means when he exhorts his listeners to “pray without ceasing...” (1 Thess. 5:16-18)? Do you think constant prayer is possible? Why or why not?
4. Do you think the Gospel message is offensive to those who do not believe (1 Cor. 1:18, 1 Peter 2:7-8)? How do you think, with a potentially offensive message, we can be people on the offense, without being offensive?
5. Read the text from Matthew 16:18-19. What is your interpretation of these words of Jesus? Do you think they have application in the lives of believers today? What does the application look like for you/me? Can you give practical examples?
6. Jesus told his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah. This seems counterintuitive as a means of proclamation. Do you think there are times that when actions might speak louder than words? What is your (personal) greatest tool for proclaiming the message of Christ in your life? How successful are you with your proclamation?