

Day 26, July 30th

Bible Text: Matthew 16:18-19

Reflection:

Today marks a turning point in our 50 days of devotion- We do NOT turn away from God's faithfulness, which we need always, but we now focus on the second half of our 50th anniversary theme- "Faithful Forever, **Mission Forward!**" While we continue to celebrate and depend on God's faithfulness, we also must focus on His call to us to partner with Him in fulfilling His Great Commission. So we start with the passage where the word "Church" is first coined by Jesus- In Matthew 16, when Peter confessed that Jesus is the Christ, Jesus declared, "I will build My church." The church is not ultimately built by human wisdom, gifted leaders, or clever strategies. It belongs to Christ, and He Himself is committed to building it. Even "the gates of Hades" cannot stop His work. As CBCM celebrates God's faithfulness over fifty years, we remember that every ministry, every transformed life, and every new generation of believers is evidence that Christ has been faithfully building His church. As we look ahead, we move forward with confidence because His mission continues, and He invites us to join Him in His work.

1. How is Christ inviting you to participate more faithfully in building His church where He has placed you?
2. As CBCM enters its next season of ministry, what would it look like for us to trust Christ—not ourselves—to build His church?

Closing Prayer:

Lord Jesus, thank You for faithfully building Your church. Help me to joyfully serve wherever You have called me. Thank You for sustaining CBCM these past fifty years. Continue to build Your church through us as we faithfully follow Your mission. Amen.

Recommended Song of Reflection: The Church's One Foundation

<https://youtu.be/RQfNIhjuLxE?si=QXqpdX0XHTOQGwaF>

Prayer Focus: Please pray for the rest of our GO Trips this year (Colombia, Germany). May God protect, provide for, and prepare the teams to be united and ready for His work.