I. Matt 16:13-19
   A. Jesus wants to build the “church”:
      1. “IN YOU” - Ability
      2. “WITH YOU” - Availability
      3. “BEYOND YOU” - Sustainability
   B. 3 Keys to build the church BEYOND YOU - Sustainability
      1. Bigger
      2. Farther
      3. Longer

II. BIGGER - Think BIGGER because our God is BIGGER!
   A. Jer 32:27 27 “Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh. Is there anything too hard for Me?”
   B. Eph 3:20 20 Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us
   C. 1 John 4:4 4 You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.
      1. Overcome - nikao - To win a victory over, conquer, prevail, triumph
      2. Greater - megas - Big; greater in size or importance or degree
   D. 2 Kings 6:14-17 - "Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them."

III. FARTHER - Stretched beyond OUR limits but not HIS!
   A. Isa 54:2-3 2 Enlarge the place of your tent, And let them stretch out the curtains of your dwellings; Do not spare; Lengthen your cords, And strengthen your stakes. 3 For you shall expand to the right and to the left, And your descendants will inherit the nations, And make the desolate cities inhabited.
      1. Enlarge - rachab - To broaden, become wide or spacious; roomy
      2. Stretch - natah - Spread an object out to its full extent beyond what is comfortable
      3. Spare - chasak - Hold or keep back, refrain, withhold
      4. Strengthen - chazaq - Fasten onto, seize with high degree of intensity
      5. Expand - parats - To disperse or break out
   B. Gen 13:14-15 - "Lift your eyes now and look from the place where you are — northward, southward, eastward, and westward; 15 for all the land which you see I give to you and your descendants forever."

IV. LONGER - Spiritual Stamina
A. **Stamina** - *Webster* - The moral or emotional strength to continue with a difficult process, effort, etc. Staying power.

B. **Heb 6:11-12** 11 And we desire that each one of you show the **same diligence** to the full assurance of hope **until the end**, 12 that you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through **faith and patience** inherit the promises.

   1. **Diligence** - *spoude* - To be eager to do something or accomplish some end; zealous, speed, haste.
   2. **Full assurance** - *plerophoria* - Absolutely sure, certain, firmly persuaded and confident.
   3. **Hope** - *elpis* - Look forward with expectation

C. **Heb 6:15** 15 And so, after he had **patiently endured**, he obtained the promise.

   1. **Patiently endured** - *makrothumeo* - Even tempered and patient while enduring trying circumstances
   2. **Matt 24:13** 13 But he who **endures to the end** shall be saved.

V. **APPLICATION:**

A. What are you facing or surrounded by that seems BIGGER or impossible?

B. How can you allow God to be BIGGER in your circumstances?

C. Are you willing to go FARTHER in your walk with God?

D. Where is He stretching you beyond your comfort zone?

E. Are you showing the same amount of hope at the end as in the beginning?

F. How can you use your faith and patience to hold on LONGER to His promise?

G. Are you a part of the CREW or just part of the CROWD?