I. <u>Matt 16:13-16</u>

- A. Who do "men" say that I, the Son of Man, am?
 - 1. Men Other people, the world, opinions of others
- B. 2 things people can try and get from others.
 - 1. Approval Favorable opinion, acceptance
 - a) If you live for people's approval you will die from their criticism.
 - 2. Identity Who "am" I?
 - a) <u>Heb 4:15</u> 15 For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.
 - b) Matt 11:1-6 John is in prison questioning Jesus
- C. V15 Who do "YOU" SAY that I am?
 - 1. Ps 107:2 2 Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, Whom He has redeemed from the hand of the enemy,
- II. Does what "they" say affect what you say?
 - A. Acts 4 Peter and John arrested and threatened "they" say
 - 1. <u>V19-20</u> Peter and John say in response to what "they" say
 - a) Prov 29:25 25 The fear of man brings a snare, But whoever trusts in the Lord shall be safe.
 - B. Acts 5:12 THROUGH THE HANDS OF THE APOSTLES
 - 1. <u>Through</u> dia the channel of an act; an instrument by which something is accomplished.

- a) Acts 2:43 43 Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.
- b) Acts 5:12 12 And through the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were done among the people.
- c) Acts 14:3 3 Therefore they stayed there a long time, speaking boldly in the Lord, who was bearing witness to the word of His grace, granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands.
 - (a) Signs semeion A display used to identify or advertise for use
 - (b) <u>Wonders</u> teras Miraculous display that causes beholder to marvel.
- C. 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 (and through) us,
- D. <u>2 Cor 2:14</u> 14 Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and <u>through us diffuses</u> the fragrance of His knowledge in every place.
- E. <u>2 Cor 5:20</u> 20 Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.

III. Matt 16:17-19

A. <u>Build</u> - oikodomeo - To be a house builder, architecture; to increase the potential of something through a process of strengthening and building up.