

<b>PARENT PAGE</b> COMMUNITY LESSON 1	<h1 style="margin: 0;">GOD'S ARMY (WHAT IS THE CHURCH?)</h1>	
	<b>Matthew 16:13–20; Acts 1:1–3</b>	<b>Psalm 118:22–23</b>
<b>BIBLICAL PASSAGE</b>	<b>MEMORY VERSE</b>	The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone; the LORD has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes. Psalm 118:22–23

What is your "family foundation"? Is it a famous ancestor—maybe a hero, maybe a villain? Or is it something you do together, like always getting together for family meals or setting aside a specific week every year for a family vacation or reunion? Families may have a lot of foundational traditions. But faith in Christ is the most important foundation for any family.

Read Matthew 16:13–20 and Acts 1:1–3. When Jesus asked His disciples who they thought He was, they came up with multiple answers. They probably were not prepared for Jesus' "pop test," but He had been preparing them for it for years. It was Peter who confessed that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of the Living

God. Peter's confession is similar to the one you made when you became a believer. A relationship with Jesus begins by identifying Him as the Savior, the true Son of God. That is the foundation of the Church.

The Church is commissioned with making Christ known to the world. Every believer plays an important role in carrying out this purpose. Your teenager is crucial to the Church, and of course, so are you. It can seem difficult for teenagers—and sometimes for their parents—to find their place in the Body of Christ. How is your teenager involved in the life of your church? Is he or she simply attending services and programs, or is your teenager being transformed for the ministry and service of God?

## FAMILY DEVOTION TIME

### Connect . . .

Each family member discusses when he or she first came to know Christ. Share the important details: age, location, and people involved. Then, a family member reads: **Each believer is a part of Jesus' Body and is essential to His mission.**

### Explore . . .

A family member reads Matthew 16:13–20 and Acts 1:1–3. The family discusses: **Why is it important to believe Jesus is the Son of God?** Then, another family member reads: **Like Peter, we need to confess Christ is the Son of the Living God. When we recognize Jesus as our authority, we claim the power that only He can give. The members of the New Testament Church recognized that power, and so can we.**

### Transform . . .

A family member reads: **The mission of the Church has not changed since its birth. Jesus prepared His earliest followers to carry on after His ministry on earth ended. One of His final commands to His disciples was to "Go." The family discusses: How can we answer Jesus' command to "go"? What can we do as a family to share Christ's love?**

*Pray as a family. Pray that your family will understand the importance of a strong foundation within the Church and continue to build on that foundation.*

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