



TALK ABOUT IT

1. How did the death of Queen Elizabeth affect you last week? How different is it to live under the rule of royalty, than in a republic like ours?

READ ABOUT IT: Matthew 16:18-19; Romans 12:4-5; Matthew 28:19-20.

THINK ABOUT IT

2. **Read Matthew 16:18-19.** When Jesus speaks of His Kingdom, what thoughts come to your mind about His rule? What is Peter's role in the Kingdom of heaven (or Kingdom of God)? What is Jesus promising here? Is this just for the afterlife, or for now?
3. **Read Romans 12:4-5.** The metaphor of the Church as a body is not literal of course, but what part of the body do you imagine that you are? Part of the hand (helping, fixing, creating), the foot (going, on the move, sent), or the heart (feeling, praying, compassion). Or can you think of another part that fits you better? (Remember Jesus is the head.)
4. **Read Matthew 28:19-20.** What is the central command that Jesus gives to his followers? How are they expected to carry it out?

DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT

5. The promises in the above verses are great: prominence in God's kingdom, victory over the threat of Hades, and the ability to influence both heaven and earth. We're also reminded of our place and importance within the body of Christ and commanded to make our lives part of Christ's disciple-making mission. With such great power and privilege, what is our responsibility before God? What will that look like for you as you approach the new week?

Matthew 16:18-19

¹⁸ And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock, I will build my church (ecclesia), and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

Romans 12:4-5

⁴ Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, ⁵ so it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other.

Mathew 28:19-20

¹⁹ Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. ²⁰ Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."