Misunderstood? Key

Use this PDF to provide answers to the questions on the "Misunderstood?" PDF. Answers are in italics.

GROUP 1

What did Jesus mean when He said He would build His Church on Peter?

To understand this, it helps to look at Peter as the first member of the Church—the Church being those who confess a belief in Jesus Christ as the Son of God. Let's look at Scripture.

Read Romans 10:9–10. What must you do to be saved? (*Confess with your mouth that Christ is Lord.*)

Read Matthew 16:16. When Jesus asked Peter who he thought He was, how did Peter respond? (*He confessed Christ as Lord.*)

When you compare Peter's response in Matthew 16:16 to Romans 10:9–10, what had Peter done by confessing Jesus as Lord? (*He ensured his salvation—he was saved by his belief.*)

How is this similar to the way people become members of the Church—the universal body of believers—today? (*Peter proclaimed his belief in Christ and was saved. Virtually no difference exists in how people confess Christ today. This confession identifies you as a believer and therefore a member in the global Church.*)

GROUP 2

What roles did Jesus and the disciples play in the foundation of the Church?

We could say the Church is built on the foundation of the disciples with one important note: Jesus is the cornerstone of that foundation. Let's look at the Bible.

Read Ephesians 2:19–22. What does verse 20 say about the foundation of the Church? (*It was built upon the prophets and apostles.*)

According to these verses, in what way did Peter become the foundation on which the Church was built? (The apostles and the disciples were the same people.) (*He was a part of the foundation along with the other disciples and especially Jesus.*)

What do these verses mean when they refer to the prophets as a part of the foundation? (*They predicted Jesus' coming—God allowed them to see and preach about a day when the Savior would come.*)

What do these verses say about Jesus' role? (*He is the chief cornerstone, the rock upon which the whole Church depends.*)