House On The Rock Life Group Study outline 2022

August: The Church in Focus

Week 3 - The Advancing Church

Introduction

We previously described the church as living, yet immovable, which seemed to be a contradiction. To further complicate matters, we are now also describing the church as advancing, the very opposite of immovable. So, is the church immovable or advancing? The answer is "both". Today, we will explore what it means for the church to be advancing.

Pilot text

<u>Matt 16:18-19</u> And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

- What does it mean for the church to be advancing?
 - 1 Cor 9:19-22, Eph 3:10, Matt 16:19, Matt 20:25-28, 2 Cor 10:16, 1 Cor 16:8-9, Rom 15:20.
- In what areas should the church be advancing today? [Open discussion]
 - o Areas to consider include sustainability, technology and social impact
- Take home actions
 - Take out some time to pray for the church, that we may be all that God has called us to be.