

KEYS TO THE CHURCH

MATTHEW 16:13-20

Ministry of Reconciliation

# The Firm Foundation

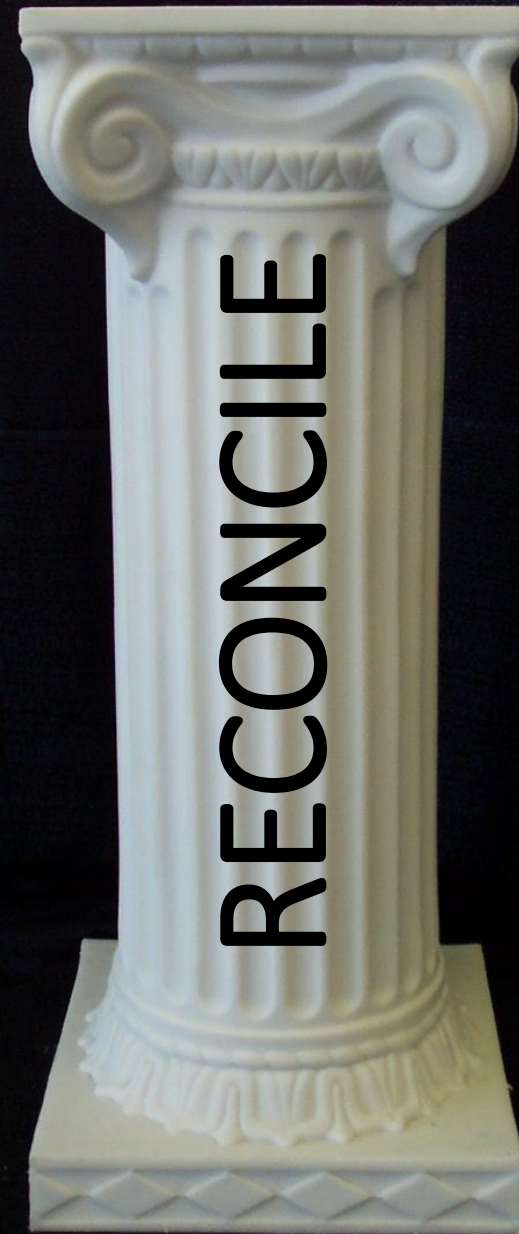
**Vision** – focus on the personality of the church and how God sees the local congregation:

“Seeing God Change Lives One Person At A Time!”

**Mission** – a practical statement of what you will accomplish and how you will do it



The All Important Keys to  
the church!





# What does it mean to Reconcile?

- English Dictionary – cause to coexist in harmony/make friendly relations again after a separation or disagreement
- Greek Dictionary – “an alteration or change”, the focus is on a change in personal relationships between human beings, or especially between persons and God



# Why Do We Need Reconciled?

- A barrier came into existence between man and God called SIN.
- SIN did two things:
  - Destroyed man's harmony with God as it was intended
  - Made us hostile towards God (Why?)



# What Reconciled to God Does!

- Through Christ, it (reconciliation) removed the barrier of sin, there is no hostility
- Reestablishes our harmony with God through a changed attitude towards Him – harmony can only be exercised when acceptance is established and the barrier is removed!



# We are Ministers of Reconciliation

- Called Ambassadors – ranked government representatives stationed in a foreign land, operating under the authority of our Commander-in-Chief
  - An ambassador must 1<sup>st</sup> be approved - then appointed
  - They relay policies and decisions (the Bible) to those of whom they are associated (believers and non-believers)
  - Manage diplomacy with others working towards peace and harmony with all who are associated with the Commander

