

**INTERNATIONAL BIBLE CHURCH (IBC) LINZ**

**Flötzerweg 156 (Neue Heimat) 4030 Linz**

*...then you shall know the truth and the truth will set you free. Jn.8:32*

**SUNDAY SCHOOL OUTLINE**

**04:01:15**

**Theme: THE EXCELLENT SPIRIT IN PETER**

**Memory Verse:** *Matthew 16:16 “And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.”*

**Texts: John 6:66-69; Luke 9:20, Mark 8:29**

Peter stood out among the other disciples as an inflamed, rugged believer of the apostolic age. He, without religious pretence nor sanctimonious gentleness, made it to heaven. How greatly did his life contrast the malevolent quiet spirit of Judas who had a form of godliness but denied the power thereof. The lesson today reveals the true spirit in Peter. It was an excellent spirit.

Jesus responded swiftly to this great confession of Peter: “Blessed art thou Simon Bar-jona, for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in Heaven”(Mathew 16:17). This was a heaven-sent confession. It was devoid of any carnal, cunning or common sense manipulation. This confession demonstrated the practicality of the unity of the Godhead reflecting on Peter. Jesus said: “flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto you” which implies the revelation of the Spirit, and the verse concludes with: “but my Father which is in Heaven”. So with this, the Spirit revealed Jesus by the Father in Heaven unto Peter.

It is then reasonable to agree with the Scripture, that the Spirit of God revealed this deep truth to Peter. This singular act of God in the life of Peter should challenge all church-goers. Our spirit must attract the spirit of God. A dirty, sinful, corrupt and carnal mind will only hear and understand earthly things. This great confession of Peter exalted Jesus as the Christ, the son of God, against the error of and the false teachings of the Jews. It acknowledges the deity of Christ, explaining Jesus as the second in the Godhead quite distinct from the Father and the Spirit. This type of confession does not come from the head but from the heart. It can only come from a truly redeemed, regenerated and renewed heart.