

Parable of the Two Builders - February 21

Parents: How do we give our children a strong foundation? One that isn't easily shaken in the storms of life. Jesus shares a story of two builders—a wise man that built his house on the rock and a foolish man that didn't. Let's take a closer look at the differences.

Read: Matthew 7:24-29 The Parable of the Two Builders 24 "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. 25 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. 26 But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. 27 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash."28 When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at his teaching, 29 because he taught as one who had authority, and not as their teachers of the law.

Discuss: What is Jesus referring to when he says, "these words of mine"? *God's Word, the Bible.* What does it mean to put them into practice? Not only to hear God's Word, but obey or follow it.

To what can we compare the rain, flood waters, and winds that beat against the house? *Struggles that come our way.*

Whose house stood and did not crash? The wise builder's house who built on the rock. We can build on the rock by listening to God's Word, obeying the teachings, and trusting Jesus. Whose house fell with a great crash? The foolish man that built on shifting sand. He heard God's Word, but didn't listen, take it to heart, and follow Jesus.

Again, how can we be wise and build on the rock? When we read the Bible each day, pray to God to help us follow it, and trust Jesus.

Why were the crowds amazed at Jesus' teaching? He taught as one who had authority.

Key Point: Be Wise, Read God's Word

Be Wise (Make a rainbow shape with a finger and thumb, move up and down in front of forehead)

Read God's Word (Hold up a palm, look at it like you are reading a page, next, take one finger finger and point to the middle of opposite palm, lastly, hold both palms together and open hands like a book)

Family Activity: Utilizing the coloring sheet, match up the pictures and numbers to fill in the blanks. Look up Matthew 7:25 in the Bible to see if the words have been filled in correctly.

Prayer: Dear God, We praise You for being our Rock and giving us the Bible. Forgive us when we hear, but don't follow. Help us be in Your Word daily and obey it. We thank and love You. Amen.

Next Steps: Memorize - Matthew 7:25 "...yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock."

