

Announcements:

- ANNOUNCE anything that our Teen Ministry is doing (community service events, weekend events, series for midweek, etc.)

The Wise and Foolish Builders

Matthew 7:24-27

Solid vs. Shallow Foundation

Here we have two men: one is called wise because he builds his house on the rock, the other is called foolish because he builds his house on the sand.

The difference between these two men is that one puts God's Word into practice, and the other does not. One has strong foundation by practicing what the Bible says, and the other has a shallow or even no foundation at all.

Q - Let's discuss what these builders would look like practically...What would someone with a shallow foundation be like (act like, say, etc.)?

Q - What would it look like if someone were to have a solid foundation?

Q - How do we build that solid foundation? What's it mean to "put God's Word into practice?"

We need to put God's Word into practice and build up that solid foundation in our relationships with God.

The Storms

What was something these two builders had in common?—the storms!

Verse 25 and 27—*"The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house..."*

Not only did they both go through storms of some kind, they both went through the same exact storms!

Q - What are some of these "storms" that college students can go through?

Q - As we commit our lives to following God and being his disciples, what are some other "storms" that we can encounter?

Like we talked about last week, there's no surprise that we WILL go through storms in our lives. And as we try to follow God and be his disciples, we might even go through more!

The Aftermath

Even though these two men went through the same trials and struggles, there were two different outcomes.

Q - The first man built his house on the rock, and his house survived the storm. How can putting God's Word into practice help us survive the storms?

**Q - What happened to the second builder's house?—"fell with a great crash (verse 27)."
What can this "great crash" look like in our lives?**

We can see here that following God's Word is beneficial for us! **Share example of growing up in the church.** God doesn't just give us commands to be perfect just to make our lives harder—he wants to help us make it through the storms!

There's another similarity between the builders—they both heard Jesus' words. Both men heard God's message, but they had different reactions.

God gives us the freedom; He gives us the choice to accept his words, or to turn away from them. All of us here today have that choice to build our foundation on the rock or on the sand, but we all know what the results are of each.

CHALLENGE - Choose to build your foundation on the rock by putting God's Word into practice.