

# Building Your House Upon The Rock

**Matthew 7:24** (HCSB)“Therefore, everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them will be like a sensible man who built his house on the rock.

<b>Series:</b> The Storytelling God	South Orlando Baptist Church
<b>Topics:</b> Growing in Christ, Difficulties	June 28, 2015
<b>Text:</b> Matthew 7:24-27	Dr. David Crowe

## What is a Parable?

A parable is an earthly story with a heavenly meaning.

## Keys to Interpreting the Parables:

- 1) Parables basically teach one simple, single point.
- 2) To find this point, the following questions can be helpful:
  - a. Who are the main characters?
    - i. In the parables where there are many characters, there are usually two or three characters that are most important.
  - b. What occurs at the end?
  - c. What occurs in direct conversation?
    - i. For example, in the prodigal son parable, there is no conversation between the Father and the Prodigal son, but there is a long conversation between the father and the older son.
  - d. Who gets the most attention within the parable?
- 3) Important questions to ask:
  - a. Would the original audience of the parable be able to understand your interpretation?
  - b. Who was present during Jesus speaking of the parable? (Pharisees, Disciples, Soldiers, etc.)
  - c. What is happening in the context of the parable? (What is the gospel writer talking about in the whole chapter or in the surrounding chapters?)

## As you live out your life...

- 1) **Build Your \_\_\_\_\_ upon the Rock (vs. 24)**
  - A) **Hearing the words of Jesus.**
  - B) **Doing the Words of Jesus.**
- 2) **\_\_\_\_\_ through the storms with Christ (vs. 25)**
  - A) **Storms hit both Christians and Non-Christians**
  - B) **Christ is the only security.**
- 3) **\_\_\_\_\_ Building on Sand (vs. 26-27)**
  - A) **Jesus calls him "foolish"**
  - B) **It's fall is called "great"**

# Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's message.

1. Who did Jesus say is wise? (7:24)
2. Besides hearing the words of Christ, what else must a person do in order to be considered wise? (7:24)
3. Jesus compared wise living to building a house on what kind of foundation? (7:24)
4. What sets fools apart from wise people? (7:24, 26)
5. In Jesus' analogy, what strong forces of nature pounded on the wise person's house? (7:25)
6. What was the effect of the wind and rain on the house? (7:25)
7. Why wasn't the house part of a "disaster area"? (7:25)
8. What kind of people did Jesus talk about in contrast to the wise person? (7:26)
9. What individuals are like a man who builds a house on sand? (7:26)
10. According to Jesus, foolish living is like building a house on what kind of foundation? (7:26)
11. In Jesus' analogy, what happened when the wind and water crashed against the fool's house? (7:27)
12. How did the crowd respond to Jesus' teaching? (7:28)
13. Why did the crowd react with amazement to Jesus' teaching? (7:29)
14. Why is it difficult to apply God's truth to our lives?
15. How does obedience to God bring security to our lives?
16. What foundation are you building your life on?
17. How can you build your life on Christ?
18. What are some sandy foundations you have seen people base their lives on?
19. How do you feel when you see people (friends or family members) ignoring God and making bad decisions?
20. What is the most amazing thing to you about all that Jesus ever said?
21. What neglected command of Christ will you begin obeying this week?