

LESSON 5
ROCK SOLID
MATTHEW 7:1–29



1 What's the worst storm you've ever been in?

2 What's scary about storms?



Read Matthew 7:1–29 and the following notes:

☐ 7:21 ☐ 7:21–23 ☐ 7:22 ☐ 7:24 ☐ 7:26 ☐ 7:29

3 Who will enter the Kingdom of Heaven (7:21–23)?

4 What is the main difference between the wise and foolish builders (7:24–27)?

5 If Jesus and his teachings are like a rock, then what things are like sand?

6 Why is a good foundation so crucial for weathering storms?



Jesus told his disciples that choosing whether or not to follow his instructions was much like choosing where to build a house. A life of submission to Christ and his teaching is like a house built on a solid foundation, able to withstand the storms of life. A life built on anything apart from God's Word is like a house built on sand, completely unable to withstand trials. In giving us his Word, Jesus offers us a solid foundation on which to build our life. What are you building your life on?

7 What is so attractive about building a life on a foundation of sand?

8 What are some of the hazards of ignoring God's instructions?

9 What does it take to build a life on solid rock?



10 Why do people ignore God's instructions?

11 How can we avoid the mistake of the foolish builder?

12 How does it feel to know that you are responsible to obey everything Jesus taught?

13 If you could ask Jesus to clarify one expectation he has for your life, what would that be?



14 Skim through the Sermon on the Mount, beginning at Matthew 5:1. For what areas of your life do these instructions provide a solid foundation?

15 What can you do this week to build your life on Christ?

A What is the difference between judging and thinking critically (7:1–6)? How can we avoid judging without being naive or blind to the facts? About whom is it difficult for you to be objective? What can you do to be fair in your assessment of this person?

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B What are the “pearls” we should not share with people who won’t listen to God’s message (7:6)? How can we practice discernment in what we say to others about God?

C Why is it good to do for others what you would like them to do for you (7:12)? What is golden about the Golden Rule? Toward whom do you need to practice the Golden Rule more consistently?

D The crowds were amazed at Jesus’ teachings (7:28, 29). What impresses you about Jesus’ teachings? How do his teachings affect your attitudes and actions?