



UPSIDE DOWN

BUILDING TO WITHSTAND STORMS

MATTHEW 7:24-29

- TWO GATES** wide and narrow Enter by the narrow gate (*Matt 7:13-14*)
- TWO PATHS** easy and hard Walk the way that leads to life (*Matt 7:13-14*)
- TWO TREES** bad and good Follow the one who bears good fruit (*Matt 7:15-20*)

I. Building your life on a rock means _____ God's Word.

"Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ... And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand." vv. 24, 26

It's foolish to only listen to God's Word.

It's wise to listen to God's Word and apply it to your life.

Make God's Word your daily _____ guidebook.

II. Building your life on a rock is imperative because storms are _____.

"And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. ... And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it." vv. 25, 27

Storms expose the sturdiness of our foundation.

Sturdy foundations help us weather the storms.

Embed deep piers of God's promises _____ the storms come.

MOM'S HELP FOR A FIRM FOUNDATION

- Equip your children to build their own faith through conversations and experiences.
- Encourage your children to hold on to God, who will see them through their storms.
- Exemplify what it looks like to hold on to an unshakable God in our unstable world.

And when Jesus finished these sayings, the crowds were astonished at his teaching, for he was teaching them as one who had authority, and not as their scribes. vv. 28-29

UPSIDE DOWN

DEVOTIONAL & HOME GROUP STUDY

1. Are you quick to make decisions, or do you prefer to keep all your options open until your circumstances force you to decide?

FOR THIS WEEK

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE:

MATTHEW 7:24

"Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock."

JOURNAL:

Matthew 7:24-29

"These pictures of eternal punishment are not pretty, but they are urgently necessary for Jesus' audience and for Matthew's readers, including us. The years that we have been allotted on this earth have eternal significance. They may end sooner than we think, so we must be prepared at all times for what lies beyond. What's more, the way we live these years is important, because what we sow here is what we reap there. This should cause us to live with an eternal perspective, which will influence our priorities in our work and play, in our relationships and commitments, and in our stewardship and service. ... As Jesus did, I must ask: 'Are you with Jesus or against him? Are you clear about the consequences either way, both for this life and the afterlife?'"

MICHAEL J. WILKINS

2. How is the story of the wise and foolish builders a good illustration of the church today?

3. What are some sandy foundations you've tried to build your life on? How did you come to discover the foolishness of that decision?

4. How has our *Upside Down* study in Matthew 5-7 caused you to examine yourself? How has it affected your life?

5. As Messiah, Jesus is the authoritative judge of humanity's destiny. In these four brief scenes concluding the Sermon on the Mount, it's as if everyone stands before Jesus and he asks each one *What will you do with me?* Everyone has to make the decision. In light of this, what "deep digging" (Luke 6:48) do you need to do alone with God?

JOURNAL Matthew 7:24-29

Some questions for reflection:

Do I act on what Jesus commands? Or do I walk away from His Word none the wiser?

Do I face the trials and tribulations of life with confidence or with fear?

Am I continuing, day after day, to build my life on the foundation of Christ and His Word? Or am I depending on other things, like the wisdom of the world, the advice of foolish teachers, or my own shaky emotions?

COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL

Here's a glimpse at what you need to know for this week at Christ Chapel. If you'd like to find out even more, visit www.ccbcfamily.org/events. That's a great spot to see what's coming up!

BAND OF BROTHERS: LIFE AND GODLINESS

Band of Brothers is a time when men of all ages come together and lean into God's Word. Join us this summer as we take a step into 2 Peter. Decisions are at every turn, but so are the lies that distract us from our purpose. We'll find out how a man of God stays faithful in the face of falsehood. We hope to see you as we begin this Thursday, May 12 at either 6:30 a.m. or 7 p.m. Learn more and register today at ccbcfamily.org/events.

AVENEW WEEKEND

From dating and engaged to newly married, couples are welcome to our AVENEW weekend conference starting this Friday, May 13. You'll receive a biblical framework to model as you walk out the Lord's plan for your marriage. AVENEW weekend is an intensive two-day conference-style event equivalent to twelve weeks of learning. Learn more or sign up at ccbcfamily.org/events.

THE STORY OF OUR SALVATION

Explore the first eight chapters of Romans with Pastor Andy Bowen starting next Sunday, May 15, at 10:45 a.m. in The Den. From creation to glory, you will explore topics that provide a deeper understanding of God and creation, the purpose of the law, the meaning of faith and righteousness, death and substitution, life and the Holy Spirit—just to name a few. Learn how your experience of walking with God grows as you discover the story of your salvation. Learn more at ccbcfamily.org/events.

"BIG CITY SWING" BIG BAND CONCERT

Join us on Friday, May 20 at 7 p.m. for a free concert from CCBC's own Big Band. This year we're presenting the concert in two ways: You can sit in the Sanctuary as usual, or be part of a family-friendly experience on the lawn outside where the concert will be broadcast live. Both will be an incredible time of enjoying the sounds of our Big Band. Learn more at ccbcfamily.org/events.

WOMEN IN THE WORD: HEART OF THE HOME

Some might say the kitchen, the family room or the back porch is the heart of the home. But *who* is the heart of the home? This summer we'll enter five homes Jesus visits and watch what happens when He brings life into each home through forgiveness, healing, salvation, joy and love. Join Women in the Word this summer and be inspired to welcome Jesus as the heart of your home. Starting Thursday, June 2 at 7 p.m. in the Oak Room. Register today at ccbcfamily.org/events.

LOOKING FOR THE CONNECT

CARD? Scan the QR code here to fill out a Connect Card. Our team will reach out this week to answer your questions and tell you more about Christ Chapel.



IF YOU'D LIKE TO GIVE AN OFFERING TODAY, YOU CAN DO SO STRAIGHT FROM YOUR

PHONE. The process is quick and easy—text CCBCFW to 833-422-7200 to get started.

GET UPDATES AND ENCOURAGEMENT FOR YOUR WEEK.

Throughout the week, we like to post updates, events and encouragement on our Facebook and Instagram accounts. They're online communities we love and think you will too! Search @christchapelbiblechurch to find us and follow along.