



Dec. 17, 2023

Gospel of the Kingdom - Two Builders

Matthew 7:24-29

Summary: Jesus concludes His masterful sermon with a blue collar analogy. Two builders with similar blueprints, materials, methods and effort have drastically different endings because of their choice in foundation. Jesus' conclusion is simple. The two builders are listeners and the all-important foundation is what they do with Jesus' words.

Scripture – Matthew 7:24-29, 11:28-30; Job 1,4, 8:4; James 1:22-25

Community Group Questions

Introduction

- “When life is good we don’t care how the house is built.”
- “Storms bring out bad theology.”
- The wise builder has integrity. What are the challenges we face in maintaining integrity?

Similarities/Differences

- Did the similarities of the fool’s and the wise man’s house surprise you?
- “We are programmed to believe that if we build our house well we will not experience storms.”
- “The foundation is what you do with the words of Jesus.”
- “Sand is truth unused.”
- Why is it no accident when a house withstands a storm?

Stuck in the Sand

- “It can be notebooks full, but life empty.” How do we prevent ourselves from being showmen? (James 1:22-25)
- How do we get out of the sand and back to the rock?
- “We are being programmed not to respond to information.” How do we overcome that?
- Why do we need Jesus’ help to respond to His words? (Matthew 11:28-30)
- **“All of us have the words of Jesus; what kind of builder will you be?”**