

BIBLE STUDY: Build Your House on the Rock

by Connie Trautman

Jesus often taught using parables. Do you know what a parable is?

A parable is a story that teaches a lesson. In the parables, Jesus was able to share secrets about God and His kingdom. These secrets show us God's wisdom and lead us to a better life!

Matthew 7:24-27 (CEV) Anyone who hears and obeys these teachings of mine is like a wise person who built a house on solid rock. Rain poured down, rivers flooded, and winds beat against that house. But it did not fall, because it was built on solid rock. Anyone who hears my teachings and doesn't obey them is like a foolish person who built a house on sand. The rain poured down, the rivers flooded, and the winds blew and beat against that house. Finally, it fell with a crash.

Luke 6:4-49 (CEV) Why do you keep on saying that I am your Lord, when you refuse to do what I say? Anyone who comes and listens to me and obeys me is like someone who dug down deep and built a house on solid rock. When the flood came and the river rushed against the house, it was built so well that it didn't even shake. But anyone who hears what I say and doesn't obey me is like someone whose house wasn't built on solid rock. As soon as the river rushed against that house, it was smashed to *pieces*.

VOCABULARY

1. Flooded "rivers flooded"
2. Foolish "foolish person"
3. Authority "someone with authority"
4. Immovable
5. Beat "winds beat against the house"
6. Crash "fell with a crash"
7. Collapse

UNDERSTANDING GOD'S WORD

1. What happened to the house that was built on the rock?
2. Why did the house not collapse?
3. What happened to the second house?
4. Why did the house built on sand collapse?

APPLYING GOD'S WORD TO OUR LIVES

THE STORMS OF LIFE

1. Have you ever been in a bad storm?
2. Does your country or hometown have many bad storms?
3. Describe the worst storm you have been in. How did you feel? What did you do?
4. How is the man who built his house on the rock described?
5. How is the man who built his house on the sand described?
6. Which man are we like if we hear God's Word and choose to ignore what it says?
7. What other kinds of "storms" are there in life? Are you living through a storm right now?
8. How can we prepare for the storms of life?

As a child, we sang this song. It is a song based on the Bible story we read today.
Let's sing the song together.

The wise man built his house upon the rock,
The wise man built his house upon the rock,
The wise man built his house upon the rock,
And the rains came tumbling down!

The rains came down and the floods came up,
The rains came down and the floods came up,
The rains came down and the floods came up,
And the house on the rock stood firm.

The foolish man built his house upon the sand,
The foolish man built his house upon the sand,
The foolish man built his house upon the sand,
And the rains came tumbling down!

The rains came down and the floods came up,
The rains came down and the floods came up,
The rains came down and the floods came up,
And the house on the sand went SPLAT!

So build your house on the Lord Jesus Christ,
So build your house on the Lord Jesus Christ,
Build your house on the Lord Jesus Christ
and the Blessings will come down.

The parable that we studied shows us what life will be like if we hear God's Word and choose to do whatever we want. Jesus warned that if you do not listen to his advice, given enough time and a big storm, your life will crash. Jesus taught that there was another way to live, a better way. He wants

us to build our lives on a rock-hard foundation, on Jesus Christ. Solid lives are lives built by people who not only hear His Word but also obey and put them into practice.

What kind of house are you building? What are you counting on for security and stability in your life? No storm that comes will threaten your life if you build on the Rock.