



## THE WISE AND FOOLISH BUILDERS

READING: Luke 6:46-49

If you have ever been to Sunday school... you will know of this parable... maybe its so familiar that its been reduced to a kids song: 'The wise man built his house upon the rock'

### Context:

This parable - comes at the end of a whole series of teaching (sermon on the plain / sermon on the mount). Jesus' teaching that had come before this parable is significant - here 's a brief summary from Luke.

- God's heart to bless those who are going through tough circumstances (Luke 6:17-26)

- The call to love others: especially those who we would see see as enemies (Luke 6:27-36)
- A call not to judge others... our priority is my own sin... not seeking to find fault in others (Luke 6:37-42)
- Cultivate a good heart - leading to good fruit (Luke 6:43-45)

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*Four Reflections from this Parable:*

### 1. Storms hit EVERYONE - irregardless of...

- Wise / Foolish; Good / bad; Spiritual / Un-spiritual
- God does not prevent the storm coming... but it can be a blessing... why?

### 2. Storms reveal our TRUE foundations

- We have looked in this series that we can find joy in the storm - because it tests, refines, purifies, teaches dependence of God
- When we are 'coasting' - we don't have to dig down... it's when things get tough, that our true heart is revealed, our strengths and weaknesses, our motives, what important to us is LAID BARE
- Opportunity to examine ourselves

### 3. Digging SURE foundations is hard work

- In Jesus times... could only build in summer... needed to get to the bedrock.
- How deep.... Until you hit the bedrock!

- The foundations that Jesus is talking about are HARD WORK TO PUT IN PLACE - This is not an 'easy' thing.

### 4. THE SURE foundation is the person and words of Jesus Christ

- BUT only when his words are listened to **and** put into practice
- The Sure Foundation of our lives is heeding Jesus' teaching AND responding in obedience, faith and action.

### CHALLENGE:

**Receive God's word - Respond in Faith and we will - Remain strong & Secure**

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### Questions for Life Groups:

- Have you ever taken the 'easy route' or 'the short cut' to save time / energy?
- Why and what happened?
- In the Parable which builder would you identify with the most? And why?
- Why is it important to read this parable in the light of what Jesus has taught in the lead up to it? (you might want to have a read of the rest of the chapter) Does this give you any fresh insight to the parable or a fresh challenge?
- Which of these four reflections resonates with you the most and why?