

NewSpring Church Personal Study Guide

The Gospel — Week 4 — The Wise & Foolish Builders

Jesus concludes The Sermon on the Mount with a warning to apply his teaching.

Matthew 7:24-27

24"Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. 25The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. 26But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. 27The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash."

- What does a life "built on the rock" look like?
- What storms have you faced?
- What have been the consequences of not applying Jesus' teaching to your life? Have you ever experienced a "great crash"? How did you recover?

James 1:22-23

22Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. 23Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror 24and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. 25But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it—he will be blessed in what he does.

- What is the "perfect law that gives freedom"? (Matthew 22:34-40, Romans 8:1-2)
- Why does the bible describe a person who doesn't apply the Word as one "who looks into a mirror and immediately forgets what he looks like"?
- How have you been blessed by applying the Word of God to your life?

This week we should all purpose in our heart to not only read God's Word every day, but to also put in to practice what we have learned.