

Parables

Discussion Guide

06/30/2024

The Parables of Wise & Foolish Builders

Pastor Daniel Groves

Main Idea

A parable is a story that parallels a deeper spiritual truth. Jesus, in His wisdom and with a profound understanding of how the human heart and mind comprehend the truth, chose to speak in parables. They are meant to demystify the supernatural, by drawing a parallel with the natural. So today we are looking at the wise and foolish builders.

Anchor Verse:

But don't just listen to God's word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves (James 1:22, NLT)

Read Matthew 7:24-27; Luke 6:46-49

A proper foundation is not optional, it is essential

This foundation He's describing is our personal relationship with Him.

Read: Psalm 18:2

What is your life, your marriage, your family, your house, your future, and even your legacy built upon?

Steps of a firm foundation

- Salvation
- Water Baptism
- Spiritual Habits (prayer, fasting, worship, study of God's Word, serving)

Read: Psalm 18:10, John 15:4, Galatians 5:22-23, Proverbs 24:16

If your life can be seen as a tree, how deep would your roots be? What fruit would be evidently seen growing on your branches?

Biosphere 2

Even in the most perfect conditions, the trees couldn't stand up straight. Why? Because of the absence of the wind. The wind's challenge and exercise strengthened the trees, prompting their roots to grow deeper and stronger, ultimately establishing a firm foundation.

What challenges have you been minimizing or avoiding?

SUMMARY

Right now, you are either building your house on sand or rock. The longevity is not in the house itself. It's in the foundation upon which the house is built. As we build that firm foundation, we must learn to embrace the wind and the storms. Choose to stand up and face the wind head-on.

CALL TO ACTION

1. Read through this parable from Matthew 7:24-27 again and then read John chapter 16. Make a list of the things you see that help believers to have a firm foundation and stand against the wind.
2. Next time you're on the road, roll down your window, let the wind cause your hand to glide up and down, and declare aloud: "The wind and adversity will not break me. The wind and storms in life will shape me and make my foundation stronger."
3. Consider what your next step of faith is: salvation, water baptism, joining a group, serving on a dream team, or engaging with a mission project. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

GROUP LEADER RESOURCE

Icebreaker: How-Wow-Pow-Chow

Similar to “Highs and Lows”, this is a great way to start your small group with an easy conversation starter.

Going round each person in turn, ask them “How, Wow, Pow, Chow?”:

How: How are you doing right now?

Wow: Share a wow moment from last week

Pow: Share a challenging thing that happened last week.

Chow: What was the best thing you ate last week?

<https://disciple.org.nz/resources/my-top-10-church-small-group-ice-breakers/>