

Growth Group Study Questions May 31st

Opener Question:

1. Have you ever discovered that something you thought was secure wasn't as strong as it appeared? What revealed the weakness?

5. The foolish builder's mistake was not rejecting Jesus' words but failing to act on them. Why is passive agreement with truth often easier than obedience?

6. Jesus describes a "great fall" when the storm comes. Why do you think self-deception can remain hidden for a long time before eventually being exposed?

Read Matthew 7:24-27

2. Jesus compares obedience to building on rock. Why do you think He describes wisdom not as hearing His words, but as hearing and doing them?

7. How does this parable connect with Jesus' warnings about the narrow gate, false prophets, and those who say "Lord, Lord" earlier in Matthew 7?

3. What are some ways people can mistake biblical knowledge, church attendance, or spiritual activity for actual obedience to Jesus?

Read Matthew 7:28-29

8. Throughout Matthew 7, Jesus contrasts two gates, two trees, two professions of faith, and finally two foundations. Matthew concludes by emphasizing Jesus' authority. Why is acknowledging Jesus' authority essential to building on the rock, and what happens when we try to build our lives on our own authority instead?

4. The wise builder and foolish builder both hear the same words and experience the same storm. What does that teach us about the role of trials in revealing the true foundation of our lives?