

"Saddle Up with the Savior" Part 2
Mount of Olives | July 13, 2025 | Matthew 7:24-28
Pastor John Steward

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, we spend our lives searching for contentment. In these brief moments on Sunday morning, we are reminded that it is only through abandonment of self and reliance on You that we find ultimate peace. Thank You for Your forgiveness. Thank You for Your amazing love and grace. Help us to keep You at the forefront of our perspectives on everything in our lives. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Scripture Reading

Matthew 7:24-28

"Everyone then who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on rock. And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not act on them will be like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell—and great was its fall!" Now when Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were astounded at his teaching

Message Notes

Matthew 7:24-25

"Everyone then who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on rock."

Matthew 7:26-28

And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not act on them will be like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell—and great was its fall!" Now when Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were astounded at his teaching"

Study Questions – Read Matthew 7:24-29
(ICEBREAKER – getting started)

1. What makes a "house" a "home"?
2. On the Television Network, *HGTV*, they often talk about building your dream house. If you were to build your dream house, where would it be? What would it look like? What would it include? Describe your dream house.

(OBSERVATION – What does the text say?)

1. As you read **Matthew 7:24-29**, what comes to mind? What stands out? What is interesting to you and why?
2. In one sentence, how would you summarize this text?
3. What lesson or message do you think the author is trying to convey?
4. Who is Jesus addressing in this story? Does it apply to you? Why or why not?

(INTERPRETATION – What did it mean to them?)

1. What does Jesus mean by "everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice"? Is it possible to hear his words and not put them into practice? If so, please give an example of how one might hear his words but not put them into practice.
2. What is the significance of comparing the wise man to someone who builds his house on the rock?
3. What do you think is meant by "the rock"?
4. What do the rain, floods, and winds represent in the parable? Give some examples of "rain," "floods," and "winds" from your life.
5. Why does the house on the rock not fall, while the one on the sand does?
6. What does it look like practically to "build your house on the rock"? How can you do this in your life?
7. In verse 26, what is the danger of hearing Jesus' words but not putting them into practice?
8. What does the crowd's reaction in verses 28–29 reveal about Jesus' authority and teaching?
9. How might Jesus' authority be different from that of the teachers of the law? Can you think of any examples?

(APPLICATION – What does this mean to you today?)

1. Of the following, what kind of storm do you think claims the most spiritual casualties: (1) Intellectual doubts? (2) Moral failures? (3) Relational conflicts? (4) Personal crises? (5) Pain and suffering? (6) Loss? (7) Greed? (8) Other? Please explain your answer.
2. Being totally honest, what is the foundation you depend on most? Is it your abilities? Is it your resources? Is it other people? Is it your faith in Christ and God's Word?
3. If you were to compare your spiritual foundation to a house, what would it be? Would your spiritual foundation be shaky, brand new, slipping, solid, temporary, rebuilding, or in need of a complete remodel? Please explain your response.
4. In the last year, would you say that your spiritual foundation has gotten weaker or stronger?
5. What is one thing you learned from this study that you can apply to your life this week?