

FOUNDATIONS.

Christian apologist Ravi Zacharias was once brought to a curious building. It was specifically built to show the view of postmodernism where there is no real objective truth. You had staircases that ended without reaching a floor, doors that opened into a wall, and pillars that went from the floor to the ceiling or vice-versa without touching the other side. When asked what he thought about this layout, Ravi responded with “I wonder if the builder used the same technique on the foundation.”

Indeed, one wouldn't. The foundation is everything. If you do not have a solid foundation to your house, your house will not last. In the same way, what is the foundation for your faith? Is it an experience? Is it a feeling? Or is it that you believe firmly that Jesus rose from the dead? The foundation determines how strong the building of your faith is.

IN THE BIBLE.

Matthew 7:24-27

These words I speak to you are not incidental additions to your life, homeowner improvements to your standard of living. They are foundational words, words to build a life on. If you work these words into your life, you are like a smart carpenter who built his house on solid rock. Rain poured down, the river flooded, a tornado hit—but nothing moved that house. It was fixed to the rock. But if you just use my words in Bible studies and don't work them into your life, you are

like a stupid carpenter who built his house on the sandy beach. When a storm rolled in and the waves came up, it collapsed like a house of cards.

Isaiah 28:16-17

But the Master, God, has something to say to this:

“Watch closely. I’m laying a foundation in Zion, a solid granite foundation, squared and true. And this is the meaning of the stone: a trusting life won’t topple. I’ll make justice the measuring stick and righteousness the plumb line for the building. A hailstorm will knock down the shantytown of lies, and a flash flood will wash out the rubble.

John 16:33

I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

QUESTIONS.

- 1.)** What’s the difference between a foundation of sand vs. rock? What do both kinds of foundations look like in everyday life?
- 2.)** What role do feelings and emotions have in faith? What are some ways to stay connected to Jesus (standing on your firm foundation) when you don’t necessarily “feel it”?
- 3.)** What can you do this week to strengthen your foundation?

Whenever you read the Bible, ask yourself these three questions:

1. What does this tell you about God?
2. What does this tell you about yourself and the world?
3. How is this going to change who you are and how you live?