

A STRONG FOUNDATION FOR LIFE

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IN THE "BLUEPRINT FOR LIFE" SERIES:

June 8: *Receiving God's Blessings*

June 15: *Authentic Righteousness*

June 22: *Our Motivations Matter*

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July 20: *A Strong Foundation for Life*

Matthew 7:13–14 (NLT) (13) "You can enter God's Kingdom only through the narrow gate. The highway to hell is broad, and its gate is wide for the many who choose that way. (14) But the gateway to life is very narrow and the road is difficult, and only a few ever find it.

Matthew 7:24–29 (NLT) (24) "Anyone who listens to my teaching and follows it is wise, like a person who builds a house on solid rock. (25) Though the rain comes in torrents and the floodwaters rise and the winds beat against that house, it won't collapse because it is built on bedrock. (26) But anyone who hears my teaching and doesn't obey it is foolish, like a person who builds a house on sand. (27) When the rains and floods come and the winds beat against that house, it will collapse with a mighty crash." (28) When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at his teaching, (29) for he taught with real authority—quite unlike their teachers of religious law.

1) Everyone is _____ on some kind of foundation.

2) Everyone _____ in their lives.

John 16:33 (NLT) (33) I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world."

STORMS CAN ACTUALLY BE A GOOD THING.

James 1:2–4 (NLT) (2) Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. (3) For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. (4) So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.

1 Peter 1:6–7 (NLT) (6) So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must endure many trials for a little while. (7) These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world.

YOU CAN'T CONTROL THE STORMS BUT YOU CAN CHOOSE THE FOUNDATION YOU BUILD YOUR LIFE ON.

- 3) _____ Jesus' teachings and surrendering your life to Him is the solid foundation we need for the kind of life God created us to have on this earth.

What Can and Should I Do to Build My House on Solid Rock?

- 1) Make sure you have chosen to _____.

Becoming a Christian Involves Three Things:

- Believing in Jesus
- Repenting and Confessing Sin
- Surrendering Your Life to Jesus

- 2) It is important you _____ and what the Bible has to say about God and life.

IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO OBEY THINGS THAT WE DO NOT KNOW WE SHOULD BE DOING.

- a) Use a good understandable _____ of the Bible.

- > We use the NLT (New Living Translation) and the ESV (English Standard Version) at Otterbein
- > Our children's ministry uses the NIRV (New International Readers Version)

- b) Follow a _____.

- > Join us for **The Bible Journey** beginning on August 4
- > **The Bible Journey Journal** is available at Connection Point

- c) _____ to help you understand what you are reading.

- > The Life Application Study Bible is a good option for deeper study
- > Logos Bible software/app is a great digital option
- > The Bible App and bible.com is also a good option for Bible reading and study

- 3) We need to _____ to follow Jesus' plan for life.

James 1:22–25 (NLT) (22) But don't just listen to God's word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves. (23) For if you listen to the word and don't obey, it is like glancing at your face in a mirror. (24) You see yourself, walk away, and forget what you look like. (25) But if you look carefully into the perfect law that sets you free, and if you do what it says and don't forget what you heard, then God will bless you for doing it.

WHAT ARE YOU BUILDING YOUR LIFE ON?

*For more information about what it means to begin a relationship with Jesus or what to do after making a decision to follow Him, stop at Guest Central in the lobby following the service, email us at info@otterbeinchurch.org, or call the church office at 717.762.7147 to set up an appointment. You may also learn more about what it means to follow Jesus and/or request materials and find additional information to help you on your spiritual journey by clicking "**Next Steps > Jesus**" on our website at www.otterbeinchurch.org.*