

**Story Time - Read the story to the children**  
**Lesson 187: THE HOUSE BUILT ON THE ROCK**  
**MATTHEW 7:24-29**

"Whoever hears these teachings of mine and obeys them is like a wise man who built his house on a rock. It rained hard, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house. But it did not fall because it was built on the rock. "Whoever hears these teachings of mine and does not obey them is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. It rained hard, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house. And it fell with a loud crash, and great was its fall." When Jesus finished speaking, the people were amazed at his teaching. He did not teach like their teachers of the law. He taught like someone who has authority.

If we do what Jesus says, He calls us "wise." "Wise" means to make the right choice with the knowledge one has. His sayings give us wisdom and make us wise when we do them. This word "do" has to do with obedience. If we just "hear" but never "do," we are disobedient to Him. If we hear and also do, we have obeyed; that means we are now wise. Why does obeying God make us wise? God has the best in store for us, and if someone has the best for you, it would be wise to listen to and obey them. It is obedience that makes the difference as we build our house. [We must hear and do the Word of God.](#)

What is different about the person who does not do what Jesus teaches? He chooses to disobey the teaching of Jesus. What does Jesus call him? Foolish!

What kind of foundation has he chosen to build on? Sand. Have you ever gone to the beach and stood where the water meets the sand? Did you try standing there with your feet in the water for a while? What happened? The sand erodes away, and you begin to sink. Sand is loose and shaky, right? What would happen to a real house built on sand? It would be swept away with the tide. [We must hear and do the Word of God.](#)

Jesus' story talks about the rains, floods, wind and storm beating on the houses. We have storms in our lives. Do you know what some storms could be? Things like being sad, being tempted to do something bad, hopelessness, disappointment, unfairness, people being mean to you, losing someone you love, and many other things are storms that can happen in our lives. If we build our lives on Jesus, who is our Rock, by doing what He teaches us with His word, then we will not fall down when these bad storms come into our lives! If we don't build our lives on our Rock Jesus by hearing what He teaches us but not doing what He teaches us to do, then we have built our lives in the sand, and if storms come in our lives, we may fall down, just like that house!

# 187. THE HOUSE BUILT ON THE ROCK

## MATTHEW 7:24-29



"Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock." *Matthew 7:24*

# 187. THE HOUSE BUILT ON THE ROCK

## MATTHEW 7:24-29

### MEMORY VERSE:

“Whoever hears these teachings of mine and obeys them is like a wise man who built his house on a rock.” MATTHEW 7:24

### **Review Questions**

#### True or False

1. Jesus said, “Therefore whoever hears these sayings of mine, and does them is making a big mistake.”
2. The rains came down, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on the house, and it did not fall because it was built on the rock.
3. Jesus said, “Now everyone who hears these sayings of mine, and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand.”
4. When the rains came and the winds blew and beat on the house that was built on the sand, it did not fall.
5. When the rains came and the winds blew and beat on the house that was built on the sand, it fell with a loud crash, and great was its fall.

#### Questions

1. What is a man who does the things that Jesus teaches like?
2. What happened to the house that was built on the rock when the rains came and the winds blew?
3. What is a man who does not do the things that Jesus teaches like?
4. What happened to the house that was built on the sand when the rains came and the winds blew?
5. Did Jesus teach the people like the teachers of the law did?
6. What did the people think about Jesus?

## Lesson 187 Activity

### How Firm a Foundation?

Bring two pie plates to class; one with a lump of play dough, another with some sand. Wet the sand so that it will hold together.

Take some toothpicks and form a "teepee" by pressing the ends of the toothpicks into the play dough in one plate and the sand in another.

Pour water from a pitcher over each of the "teepees." The play dough "teepee" should stand firm, but the sand "teepee" should fall apart.

Explain to the children that the "teepee" in the clay is like the house on the rock. It will stand firm when the storms come. But the "teepee" in the sand will fall down immediately. This is what will happen if we do not build our lives on the Rock (Jesus). [We must hear and do the Word of God.](#)

### OPTIONAL ACTIVITY/DISCUSSION

Ask the children to list some 'storms' that could come in our lives, and after each 'storm' item, ask them what the Bible tells us we should do in these situations.

### PRAYER

Lead the children in a prayer of commitment to "hear" and to "do" the word of God. If there are any children who have not yet responded to the gospel, give them opportunity to do so.