



Big Idea: “Either He is _____ of All or He is not _____ at All! -Hudson Taylor

Matthew 7: 24-29 contrasts two types of Christians; Strong Christians and Superficial Christians. When the storm comes, the Superficial Christians fade away because they have no _____.

When you have a firm _____ in the Word of God, you can expect 3 things:

1. Expect a sturdy spiritual building:

In verse 24 we see the _____ builder. In verse 26 the _____ builder. A firm foundation is built by hearing the _____ and doing the _____ of God. James 1:22 says; “But don’t just listen to _____. You must do what it says.”

2. Expect a stormy blast:

In verse 27, Jesus says that the storm blew against _____ houses. When you get saved, there will be _____. Adrian Rodgers once said; “If your faith cannot be _____ then it cannot be _____.” The house on the sand fell but the house on the foundation stood firm. Romans 8:35 says; “Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril or sword?”

3. Expect a steadfast blessing:

Why do Superficial Christians fade away? Because they have _____ their lives on the shifting sands of circumstance. In Matthew 7:21 Jesus says; “Not everyone who calls out to me, ‘Lord! Lord!’ will enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Only those who actually _____ the will of my Father in heaven will enter.

The only thing that tests the foundation is the storms of life. The foundation is in the ground where nobody really sees it but you know it’s there. A foundation built on prayer time and solitude, truly seeking God’s will for your life and having a strong relationship with Jesus in your life. Reading and Studying God’s WORD and strong intentional Christian friendships with other Christ Followers on Your Community Group!

Community Group Questions:

Getting to Know you:

- If they made a movie of your life, what would it be about, and which actor would you want to play you?
- If you could be anybody besides yourself, you would be...

Going Deeper: Read the following passages from the Sermon on the Mount and discuss a few of the following attitudes and behaviours mean when building the Strong Foundation of a Spiritual Christian Life;

<u>Matthew 5: 3-37</u>	<u>Matthew 6:1-34</u>	<u>Matthew 7:1-27</u>
✓ Am I poor in spirit?	✓ Do I give without fanfare?	✓ Do I judge myself before I judge others?
✓ Do I mourn?	✓ Do I pray without pride?	✓ Do I pray for wisdom and discernment?
✓ Am I gentle?	✓ Do I fast without notice?	✓ Am I trusting in Christ for salvation?
✓ Do I hunger and thirst for righteousness?	✓ Am I storing up treasure in heaven?	✓ Am I guarding against false prophets?
✓ Am I merciful?	✓ Am I refusing to worry?	✓ Am I building on the right foundation?
✓ Am I pure in heart?		
✓ Am I a peacemaker?		
✓ Am I persecuted for the sake of righteousness?		
✓ Am I the salt of the earth?		
✓ Am I the light of the world?		
✓ Do I keep and teach Jesus’ commandments?		
✓ Do I reject ungodly anger?		
✓ Do I reconcile with those who are angry with me?		
✓ Am I controlling my thought life?		
✓ Am I honoring my marriage vows?		
✓ Do I honor my word?		

Taking it Home: Salvation is by faith alone in Jesus Christ, but obedience to Jesus’ teaching is vitally important to further the work of the kingdom. Jesus teaching in the Sermon on the Mount was intended to be obeyed. You will not be rewarded in heaven for what you heard and believed, only for what you did in obedience to Christ. One of our former pastors used to speak of God’s coming question for each of us on Judgment Day; “What did you do with my Son Jesus?”