

MESSAGE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

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Marty Grubbs, Senior Pastor



Senior Pastor Marty Grubbs continued our series on the Sermon on the Mount, jumping to the end and where Jesus uses a parable explaining how to receive and act upon his words. Jesus knew his listeners would hear his words and return to their lives. He told them they had a choice to make when they returned home – to hear and put his words into practice, or to hear and not put them into practice. A simple and clear choice. The consequences of this choice would determine the strength of the foundation of their lives, and whether or not they could withstand the storms of life. One thing we know, storms will come. Some storms have the potential to do more damage than others, and the choice to build on the firm foundation of Jesus and his message will stand under the strongest and longest storms in life.

SCRIPTURE

MATTHEW 6:23-27

NIV

²⁴ “Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. ²⁶ But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. ²⁷ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.”

The Message

“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.

26-27 “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.”

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What stood out from Marty's message?
2. Read Matthew 6:23-27 in several Bible translations, paraphrases, and versions.
3. What were the choices Jesus gave to his listeners and what would the results of these choices be?
4. What are examples of building a life on sand? (Look at specific instances you've witnessed)
5. What does a life look like with a firm foundation in Jesus and his words?
6. What can you do to build a firmer foundation on the Rock, Jesus?
7. How can we pray for you?

PRAYER

Thank God for his word, for giving us the key to living a wise life, his Son to make it possible, and His Spirit to work with us throughout our lives.