

*"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. 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. 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. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash." Matthew 7:24-27 (NIV)*

## **Storms**

**In this sin broken world you will experience storms in life. They are certain to come. They came upon me. They will come upon you. They will come with warning. They will come without warning, when you least expect them. Will your life be able to withstand the storms that will come against you?** That is a good question. How can my life stand against the storms of life that are certain to come against me? **That is an even better question.**

**Your life is life a building. You will have the opportunity to choose the materials with which you will build your life.** I'm not sure what you mean. **Think about it, what materials do people choose to build their lives? What gives people a sense of comfort and security. What do people want to acquire for themselves? What are people seeking in life?** I get it, you have given me enough clues. I could choose to build my life on any number of things. **Like what?** I could build my life on fame. I could build my life on fortune. I could build my life on all my accomplishments. I could build my life on power and prestige and possessions. **Will any of these be a firm foundation for your life? Will any of these withstand the storms of life? Is there any of these things that a storm of life could not take away from you?** No, a storm in life could sweep any of these away like house that was built on sand.

**On what firm foundation will you build your life?** I will build my life on you. I will build my life on your word. **How will you do that?** Every day I will meet with you in your word. **Many hear my word, many do not put my word into practice.** That won't be me. I will listen very carefully to all that you want to say to me. I will build my life on putting your word into practice. It will be my fervent prayer to ask you to help me to both hear and put your word into practice. **That will be very good. Your life will withstand the storms of life as you build your life on hearing and putting my word into practice.**

*Lord, every day I will meet with you in your word. I love to hear you speaking to me through your word. Help me to put your word into constant practice. Thank you that your words are a firm foundation on which my life is made secure against the storms of life. Amen*

**Identity***A Wise Man*

"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. 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. 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. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash."

NIV

Matthew 7:24-27

**Identity***Is Wise*

"Anyone who listens to my teaching and follows it is wise, like a person who builds a house on solid rock. 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. But anyone who hears my teaching and ignores it is foolish, like a person who builds a house on sand. When the rains and floods come and the winds beat against that house, it will collapse with a mighty crash."

NLT

Matthew 7:24-27

**Identity***A Wise Man*

"Everyone then who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on rock. And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not act on them will be like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell—and great was its fall!"

NRSV

Matthew 7:24-27

**Identity***A Sensible Man*

So everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts upon them [obeying them] will be like a sensible (prudent, practical, wise) man who built his house upon the rock. And the rain fell and the floods came and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. And everyone who hears these words of Mine and does not do them will be like a stupid (foolish) man who built his house upon the sand. And the rain fell and the floods came and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell—and great and complete was the fall of it.

AMP

Matthew 7:24-27

**Identity***A Wise Man*

"Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them, may be compared to a wise man who built his house on the rock. "And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and yet it did not fall, for it had been founded on the rock. "Everyone who hears these words of Mine and does not act on them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. "The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and it fell—and great was its fall."

NASB

Matthew 7:24-27

**Identity***A Wise Man*

"Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it."

ESV

Matthew 7:24-27

**Identity***A Wise Man*

"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: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. But 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: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall."

NKJV

Matthew 7:24-27

**Identity***A Smart Carpenter*

"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."

MSG

Matthew 7:24-27

**Identity***Are Wise*

"All who listen to my instructions and follow them are wise, like a man who builds his house on solid rock. Though the rain comes in torrents, and the floods rise and the storm winds beat against his house, it won't collapse, for it is built on rock. "But those who hear my instructions and ignore them are foolish, like a man who builds his house on sand. For when the rains and floods come, and storm winds beat against his house, it will fall with a mighty crash."

TLB

Matthew 7:24-27

**Identity***A Wise Man*

"Everyone who hears my words and obeys them is like a wise man who built his house on rock. It rained hard, the floods came, and the winds blew and hit that house. But it did not fall, because it was built on rock. Everyone who hears my words 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 hit that house, and it fell with a big crash."

NCV

Matthew 7:24-27

# A Wise Man

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Week \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Identity** – Matthew 7:24-27

**In Context:** *Read Matthew 7*

**Begin With Prayer:**

***Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.***

**Meditating On God's Word:** ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

"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. 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. 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. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash." Matthew 7:24-27

**Considering The Words:** ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

"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. | 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. | 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. | The rain | came down, | the streams rose, | and | the winds blew | and | beat against | that house, | and | it fell | with a | great crash." Matthew 7:24-27

**Praying The Scripture:** ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Lord, every day I will meet with you in your word. I love to hear you speaking to me through your word. Help me to put your word into constant practice. Thank you that your words are a firm foundation on which my life is made secure against the storms of life. Amen

**What It Means:** ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

**How are making sure that you are hearing and putting God's word into practice?**

How has God's word changed your heart, mind and life as you have heard and put it into practice?

When are you setting aside daily time to hear God's word?

How do messages from the world compete with your ability to hear God's word?

When have you had a hard time putting God's word into practice?

**How are you allowing God's words to be the firm and secure foundation of your life?**

**How has putting God's word into practice helped you to withstand the storms of life?**

**Living It Out:** ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Make sure that you are hearing and putting God's word into practice as the foundation of your life.

**Seeing It Happen:** ***(What are you trusting God for in our heart?)***

Have faith that God's word will be a secure foundation for your life as you put it into practice.

**Get Ready To Share:** ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how you are putting God's word into practice in your life.

**Close With Prayer:**

***Quiet Yourself Before The Lord***

*Pause And Offer Prayers Of...*

*With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You*

Adoration... \_\_\_\_\_

Thanksgiving... \_\_\_\_\_

Confession... \_\_\_\_\_

Intercession... \_\_\_\_\_

Petition... \_\_\_\_\_

**Journal**

*As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord*

**What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?**

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**What Prayers Are You Praying Today?**

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**Prayer Of Blessing**

*(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)*

*May you hear and put God's word into practice so that your life will have a secure foundation.*

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**Prayer To Carry**

*(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)*

*Lord, I will hear and put your word into practice so that I can have a secure foundation for my life.*

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**What Do You Want To Remember About Today?**

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**A Question To Ask God**

*(What Would You Like To Ask God?)*

*Lord, how can I put your word into practice today as I follow you?*

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