

Group/Individual Study

Series - The Greatest Stories Ever Told: Mt 7:24-27 (houses on rock and sand)

Passages: Mt 7:24-27, John 16:33

REFLECT on the message heard on Sunday, 6/24

1. Read Matthew 7:24-27. These verses happen at the end of the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7), the longest continuous teaching of Jesus in the New Testament. In verses 24-27, He contrasts His teaching with any other “class” we’ve ever taken. The key isn’t to “learn the material,” but rather to put it into practice. Why do you think “application” mattered more to Jesus than mere “information?”
 - Just for fun: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9KIA-DGx_3Y
2. In what ways does putting into practice what Jesus taught fit us to survive the storms of life? Why does not obeying set us up for a fall? Have you ever seen this play out in your own life?
3. What message do you take from the fact that apparently the storms of life come to both those who obey Jesus and those who don’t? Does it surprise you that God allows storms to come to people who love Him and are following Him? What redemptive purposes have you seen God work through the storms that come to His children?
4. Read John 16:33. Jesus never hid the fact that hardship would come to His people in this world - and yet He always pointed to a victory in Him that transcended these things. What are other verses and Bible promises that are meaningful to you in the face of the storms and hardships of life? Name as many as you can think of.
5. “Application” and obedience would have been a tall order if Jesus had called us to it, and left us to try and pull it off on our own. But that’s just not our story. How does the Holy Spirit within us help us live into the things Jesus calls us to? What patterns of life have you found that help you tap into the Spirit’s power? That help you sense His nudges and leadings so that you can obey?
6. Where in your life do you think God is pointing out something to you that He wants you to obey and apply? Be healed of? Repent of? (pick any or all) Do you believe He is there to help you do this? Ask Him to make this real to you.