



June 14, 2009 – Pastor Will Mackey

Parables of the Kingdom

(Matthew 7:24-27: A Story about Trust/Obedience)

WHAT DOES IT SAY?

1. Whoever hears these words of mine and puts them into practice:
 - Will be like a wise man who builds his house on rock
 - The house is able to withstand rain, floods, and wind
 - Why? Because it has the right foundation
2. Whoever hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice:
 - Will be like a foolish man who builds his house on sand
 - The house is unable to withstand rain, floods, and wind
 - Why? Because it has the wrong foundation

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

1. The parable is not about houses and weather. It is about Jesus' authority and our lives.
2. Everyone goes through storms in life...those who hear only and those who hear and obey.
3. Everyone wants to have a solid and stable life but it is not automatic.
4. Hearing Jesus' Words and not doing them is foolish. Hearing Jesus' Words and doing them is wise.

5. Everyone is a builder...building his/her own life. We build according to our priorities, knowledge, and daily choices.
6. What we build our lives upon (the foundation) is absolutely crucial. We have a multitude of choices: God's Truth, our emotions, our hearts, our traditions, our culture, our government/laws, or our closest influencers.

WHAT DO I DO WITH THIS?

1. It all comes down to the idea of "Trust". Who do you trust?
2. To trust Christ is to begin a relationship with Him through repentance, forgiveness, and invitation.
3. To trust Christ is to continue walking through life with Him leading the way... in every area of life.
 - Like when you really need something, you go to Him first instead of your credit card or to others (Matthew 7:7-11).
 - Like when you are tempted to give up on your marriage, you say no to divorce and put your whole heart into restoring it to health (Matthew 5:31-32)
 - Like when someone at work or school mistreats you, instead of getting revenge, you show them love and pray for them so Christ can be seen in you (Matthew 5:43-48).
 - Like when you are tempted to watch everything our culture calls entertainment, you resist because what you take in through your eyes effects your mind and spirit (Matthew 6:22-23).
4. Trusting that Christ is telling us the truth and putting that truth into practice, is wise. God himself will build strength and stability into our lives because we choose to do the truth.

