

# **How to Build a House with a Firm Foundation**

**by Jesus Christ**



# Follow the Directions

Scriptures (*ESV Bible*) Key: **Matthew 7:24-27** and **Luke 6:46-49**

Supplemental: **2 Timothy 3:1-5, Hebrews 4:16 & Psalm 46:1**

## Contents of this Sermon

### **Contrasts** (*quantity = 2 total in 4 pairs*)

Wise	Foolish,
Hears & Does	Hears & Doesn't Do
Firm Foundation	No Foundation
Results: House Stands (remains Unshaken)	Results: House Falls (great ruin)

## Definitions

**House:** Our Lives

**Foundation:** How we live our lives

**Firm Foundation:** made of rock, solid ground, found by digging deep

**Shifting Foundation:** made of sand, debris, often looks like normal ground

**Violent Storm (Hurricane):** made of Rain (Sufferings), Flood (Overwhelming Circumstances) and Wind (Temptations).

**Soil:** ever changing world systems (political, social, financial, moral, etc...)

## **How to build your house on the solid rock or a firm foundation.**

**Matthew 7:24-27** (ESV) Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. **25** 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. **26** 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. **27** 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.”

**Luke 6:46-49** (ESV) 46 “Why do you call me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and not do what I tell you? 47 Everyone who comes to me and hears my words and does them, I will show you what he is like: 48 he is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when a flood arose, the stream broke against that house and could not shake it, because it had been well built. 49 But the one who hears and does not do them is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. When the stream broke against it, immediately it fell, and the ruin of that house was great.”

### **Step 1. Before you begin understand the context of your scripture verses.**

- This is a concluding verse to the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew chapters 5 - 7).
- Sermon content is a variety of lessons such as. being salt & light, clarifying topics like murder, lust, as well as what it means to bear good fruit.
- Jesus' audience was believer's & non-believers gathered because of his fame as a powerful teacher and His mighty miracles.

### **Step 2. Jesus says: stop robbing yourselves of a blessing.**

- You've heard, now go and do as I've said (obey).
- If not, everything I've said will be of no value to you
- If only pastors could survey their church the week before they preach.

### **Step 3. Inspect your foundation before building your house.**

- Floridians often have to conduct a sinkhole test before buying/building a house.
- Ground may appear firm to the naked eye so dig deep until you hit solid rock.
- Previous storm debris once dry can look like solid earth, avoid building here.
- Do not build on sand or other surfaces that will shift during rain, flood and wind.

## Troubleshooting

**Problem 1:** House is carried away.

**Possible Cause:** House builder is unaware that soil is shifting (Sins go unnoticed).

**Signs:**

- Denies they have changed, even though the house is in a different location.
- Makes statements like, “I’m just going with the flow”
- Pretends to be righteous, but deceives themselves (**2 Timothy 3:1-5** (ESV))

But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. 2 For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, 3 heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, 4 treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, 5 having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people.

**Solutions:**

- Take action the moment you see the ground beneath your feet begin to move.
- Clear away the debris of this world and ensure you are standing on solid rock.
- Avoid those that hide their evil under a cloak of supposed righteousness

**Problem 2:** House falls down into ruins during rain, flood and wind storms.

**Possible Cause:** Life is moved by suffering, harsh circumstances & temptations.

**Solution:** Respond to Christ and find comfort in His Word.

**Suggested Scriptures:** **Hebrews 4:16** & **Psalm 46:1**

**Hebrews 4:16** (ESV) Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

**Psalm 46:1** (ESV) God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

## Tips for Success (How to Hear & Do)

- Cultivate a life of accountability and a willingness to embrace correction.
- Repent regularly
- Accept that storms are a reality and prepare for them
- Remember a ruined house is not the end, rebuild using these directions.