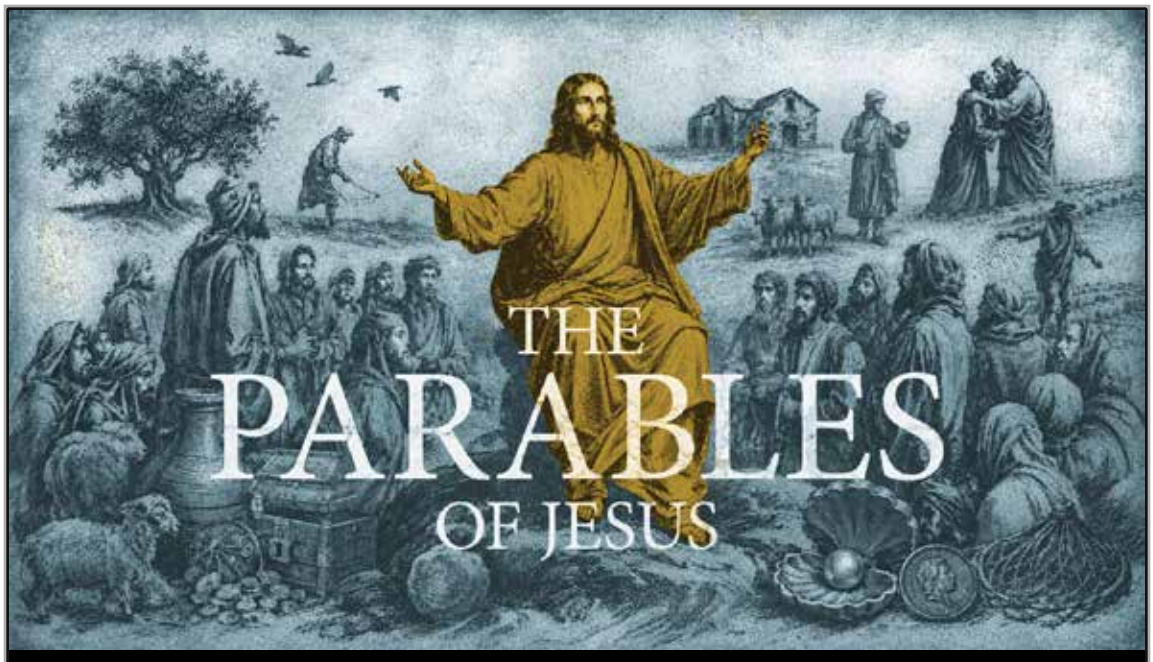
11-01-2026 Message



3 Reset Keying - Wait for it - 10 seconds



4 Start Theme Slide

More to the story · Parables part 4

Two builders. One storm.

Luke 6:46–49; Matthew 7:24–29

5 Group

Walker's pergola

Built the old-fashioned way: timber framing

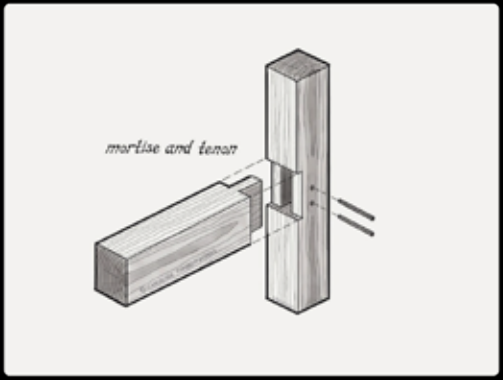
- Heavy, squared-off posts and beams
- Joined wood-to-wood
- Locked with wooden pegs, not nails or bolts





6

Mortise and tenon



- The mortise (the hole) and the tenon (the tongue)
- Joined this way for over 1,000 years
- You see it in finely made furniture

7

Village church in Hollókő, Hungary

With its wooden-framed steeple





8

Each of us is a builder

Whether we realize it or not, we are building our lives…

- Individually – our beliefs, habits, and our character
- Vocationally – career or job
- Relationally – our family, marriage, and our parenting

9

In today's parable, Jesus compares building your life to building a house.

Your house is your character, your marriage, the way you parent, the way you conduct yourself at work, what you do on Monday after you leave here on Sunday.

10

The underlying question Jesus is asking:

Who or what are you building your life on?

What will be your foundation?

11

The context of today's parable:

- Jesus told this parable more than once.
- It ends the Sermon on the Mount. (Matthew 7)
- It ends the Sermon on the Plain. (Luke 6)
- Jesus challenges us to consider our response to him.

12

The question that sets up the parable · Luke 6:46 NIV

“Why do you call me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do what I say?”

Jesus is addressing people who follow and listen to him but do not act on what he teaches.

13

Luke 6:47–48 NIV · The wise and foolish builders

47 As for everyone who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice, I will show you what they are like.
48 They are like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built.

14

Luke 6:49 NIV · The wise and foolish builders

49 But the one who hears my words and does not put them into practice is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. The moment the torrent struck that house, it collapsed and its destruction was complete.”

15

Matthew 7:24–25 NIV · The wise and foolish builders

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.

16

Matthew 7:26–27 NIV · The wise and foolish builders

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.”

17

Matthew 7:28–29 NIV

28 When Jesus had finished saying these things, the
crowds were amazed at his teaching, 29 because he
taught as one who had authority, and not as their
teachers of the law.

18

An invitation and a challenge

- Instead of ending the greatest sermons ever with a traditional altar call, Jesus ends both of them with a construction story.
- Jesus contrasts two responses to his message.

19



Two responses to his message

Sand builders	Rock builders
Hears alone	Hears & responds
Truth is not personalized	Truth prompts introspection and
Little effort required	Significant personal
Minimal spiritual growth	Substantial spiritual growth
Storm destroys	Storm tests

20

Main point 1

Hearing is not the difference

- Both heard Jesus' words. Both were "church attenders," if you will.
- The difference: one heard and put it into practice; the other simply heard.
- Jesus' call: don't just listen. Respond.

21

Believing *and* responding make all the difference

- Jesus concludes: it is not enough to believe I am who I claim to be.
- Respond in faith and obedience.

"Why do you call me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say?" – Luke 6:46

22

James 1:22–24 NIV

22 Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.
23 Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror
24 and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like.

23

James 1:25 NIV

25 But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.

24

Main point 2

The house represents your life; how are you building your life?

Your house = your whole life

25

Your house = your whole life

- Your character
- Your priorities and choices
- How you conduct yourself in your career
- How you treat your spouse
- How you parent your kids

26

Luke 6:47 NIV

"As for everyone who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice…"

27

The wise builder: three verbs

Comes	Hears	Puts
to me	my words	them into practice

Matthew simply says "hears… and puts into practice"; Luke adds "comes to me."

28

The unwise builder: built without a foundation

Luke 6:49 NIV

49 But the one who hears my words and does not put them into practice is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation.

29

The unwise builder: built without a foundation

Matthew 7:26 NIV · Matthew specifically mentions sand

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.

30

Houses built on sand can look impressive…

Galveston, Texas sand castle competition







31

Houses built on sand can look impressive…

Galveston, Texas sand castle competition





32

Things look fine on the outside, but looks can be deceiving.

We live in a culture that cares a lot about appearances.

33

Main point 3

Notice: the same storm hits both houses

34

When the storm hits

Luke 6:48b NIV

…When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built.

Matthew 7:25 NIV

25 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house…

35

Storms of life

- The job goes away
- The marriage crisis hits
- A child is going down a bad road
- At that point, people want to make up for lost time

36

Crisis reveals the foundation

People often do not question what they are building their lives on until a crisis hits.

37

"Foundations are hidden from view when the weather is good. Only a crisis exposes the hidden structural integrity of our lives — or the lack of it."

– Mark Batterson, *Gradually and then Suddenly*

38

Main point 4

What is your life resting on?

39

What is your life resting on?

- Pay attention to what is supporting your life. What is your life centered on?
- Building on the rock (in most cases) requires that you dig down.
- From Jesus' teaching, the rock represents a personal faith in God and obedience to His word.

40

Psalm 18:1–2, 31 NIV

1 I love you, Lord, my strength.
2 The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer;
my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield
and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

31 For who is God besides the Lord? And who is the
Rock except our God?

41

Matthew 16:16–17 NIV

16 Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah,
the Son of the living God.”
17 Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of
Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and
blood, but by my Father in heaven.

42

Matthew 16:18 NIV

18 And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hell will not overcome it.

43

1 Corinthians 3:11 NIV

“For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ.”

44

A life centered on self

- Your own success
- Your own happiness
- Your own fulfillment
- Your own career

45

Luke 9:23 NIV

23 Then he said to them all: “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.

46

A life centered on the kids

- The pull of Frisco: it's all about the kids.
- Often a cover for the self-centered life ("I'm doing this for them" can be ego).
- Where it is all about the kids, it produces self-centered, self-absorbed children.

47

A life centered on the kids

- Teach them life does not revolve around them; Mom and Dad will still be together when they leave for college.
- Our job: set them up for success, but they must pursue God's purpose for their lives.

48



"Unless you find your purpose and center in God, life will not work well for you."

– Rick Warren, *The Purpose Driven Life*

49

Main point 5

Dig deep and build on the rock

- We underestimate the long-term investment of building a life centered on God.

50

Luke 6:48 NIV

48 They are like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock.

51

What digging deep looks like

- No shortcuts: you cannot get around the hard labor of spiritual discipline; digging deep removes self-righteousness.
- Transformation, not just behavior: move past just hearing a sermon to radical, daily obedience.
- Christ the cornerstone: the only foundation that can hold the full weight of our lives.

52

As for me and my house · Joshua 24:15 NIV

"But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

53

The house that stood

The Sand Palace, Mexico Beach, Florida



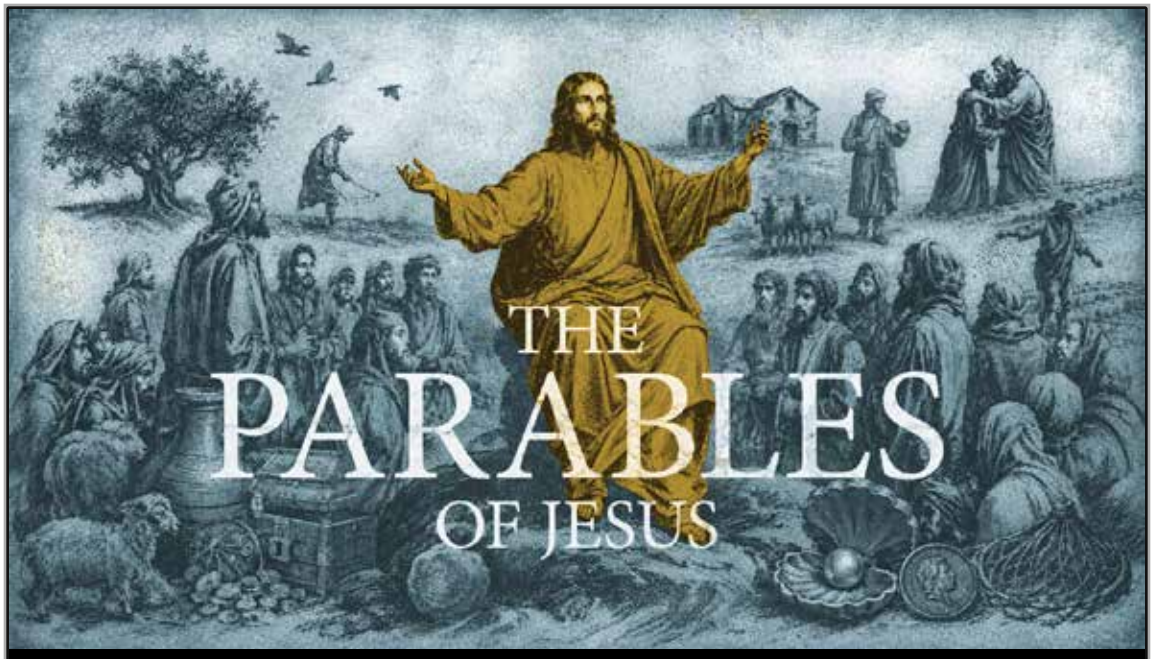
54

Two builders. One storm.

What are you building your life on?

Come to him. Hear his words. Put them into practice.

55



56 Group

End Theme Slide