

Parables of

JESUS

LARGE GROUP LESSON

BOTTOM LINE:

Build your life upon Jesus.

OBJECTIVE:

Kids will think about what foundation their life is being built on - Jesus or something else.

KEY PASSAGE:

Luke 6:46-49, Parable of the Wise and Foolish Builders

INTRO:

Have you ever noticed that the tops of buildings are usually more narrow than the bottom? From the great pyramids of Egypt to the skyscrapers of New York City, buildings are smaller and more narrow at the top than they are at the bottom.

There's a reason for this, and it's not hard to figure out. A building needs a strong foundation. If you don't have strength at the root of the building, where it's anchored to the ground, your building is simply not going to last.

From houses to hotels to office towers to stadiums, wise builders set their buildings on a solid foundation. They go down deep into the ground to solid rock. They establish a strong, wide base. They make sure they have a firm foundation so their building will withstand the elements.

A strong foundation is especially important in places that see a lot of stormy weather. Florida, for example, has some of the strictest building codes in the nation because of hurricane season. People want their home to be in the same place and the same condition after a hurricane as before. They want a house that can take the high winds and the rain and still stand firm.

Not every storm in life has rain and wind. Some storms come into our personal lives, our families, our relationships. These storms can be just as powerful and just as destructive as any hurricane. Jesus knows we need a firm foundation for our life if we want to weather these storms. Jesus is that firm foundation.

READ LUKE 6:46-49

LARGE GROUP LESSON

MAIN POINT:

A firm foundation will make a house stand strong when the wind blows. A firm foundation will protect the family inside from rain, hail, and the destructive forces of nature. A firm foundation will keep the house standing year after year, no matter what the weather may be.

Jesus wants to give us a firm foundation for life. He wants us to stand strong against temptation. He wants us to be able to withstand peer pressure and the forces that want to draw us into sin. He wants us to stand strong and not crumble when it seems everyone else around us is doing the wrong thing.

Jesus wants us to stand strong when tragedy strikes. When there's trouble at home, when there's a death in the family, when there's a problem between you and a close friend, Jesus wants to give you the strength you need to weather that storm. Jesus will give you courage. He will make you strong. He will give you a strong faith.

Jesus is the foundation for a strong life. If we build our life on Jesus, there is no storm that will ever shake us!

DRIVE IT HOME:

Of all the parables we've studied in this series, this one sums up the message of the Bible the best. The world we live in is a troubled place. God's Creation was marred when sin entered the world, bringing with it sickness and death. There is nothing we can do to stop the storms of life from coming. There is no place we can live to avoid them. But if we trust in Jesus, we can be prepared for whatever life brings.

Jesus is the firm foundation because He is our Savior. Jesus is the only man who never sinned, and He was the only one who could pay the price for our sins. Jesus conquered sin and death when He rose from the grave. If we accept Jesus as our Savior, He will send His Holy Spirit to live in our hearts.

If you've never given your heart to Jesus, you can make Him your foundation today. You can receive the gift of the Holy Spirit and begin a relationship with Him today. Jesus will be your strength in good times and bad, and He will help you through the storms of life.

If you have already asked Jesus to become your Savior, we want to encourage you to keep growing in your relationship with Jesus. Spend time with Him every day. Pray. Read the Bible. Praise Him for the good things in your life. The closer you become in good times, the stronger your foundation will be in the storms.

Jesus is the firm foundation. If we are wise, we will build our lives on Jesus. This is our invitation to lay that foundation.

LARGE GROUP LESSON

This is your invitation to make Jesus the cornerstone of your life.

CLOSE WITH A SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Help us to build our lives on Jesus.

*In Jesus' name,
Amen*