

December 2, 2018

## Finding True Wisdom

Matthew 7:24-29

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### Using This Study

#### ❶ EXAMINE His Word

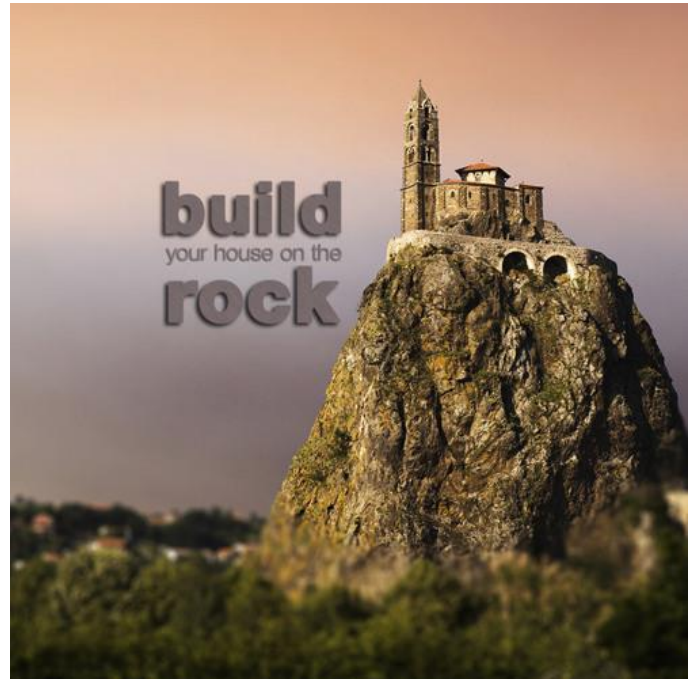
What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

#### ❷ EXPLORE His Word

What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

#### ❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.



When I was a kid I remember singing the song about the wise man that built his house on the Rock and the foolish man who built his house on the sand. The wise man's house stood firm in the storm and the house of the foolish man collapsed with a great crash. As a kid it was always fun to make the sound of the crash at the end of the song, but I never stopped and thought about how many people really build their house and their life in such foolishness. Join us this Sunday as we talk about finding true wisdom and how true wisdom will lead us to build our lives on the Rock that is Jesus Christ.

## Matthew 7:24-29 New English Translation

### Hearing and Doing

<sup>24</sup> “Everyone who hears these words of mine and does them is like a wise man who built his house on rock. <sup>25</sup> The rain fell, the flood came, and the winds beat against that house, but it did not collapse because it had been founded on rock. <sup>26</sup> Everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them is like a

foolish man who built his house on sand. <sup>27</sup> The rain fell, the flood came, and the winds beat against that house, and it collapsed; it was utterly destroyed!”

<sup>28</sup> When Jesus finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed by his teaching, <sup>29</sup> because he taught them like one who had authority, not like their experts in the law.

#### 🕯 **EXAMINE His Word (Observation)** (For personal preparation)

**What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details and terms emphasized in the foregoing passage.**

1. Who is involved in the text? Author, audience, main characters.
2. Where and when is this taking place? Geography and timeline.
3. What actions are carried out or commanded? Look for the verbs.
4. Is there anything repeated?
5. What is emphasized?

6. Is there anything in these passages that is related to other areas of scripture?

7. Are there things to be noted that are alike or unlike such as similes and metaphors?

**2 EXPLORE His Word (Interpretation)** (For Community Group discussion)  
**What does God MEAN?**

8. Why is it foolish to build a house on the sand? What does sand represent?

9. Why is it wise to build a house on the rock? What does the rock represent?

10. What do the rain, flood, and winds represent?

11. What does the wise man do?

12. How does Jesus teach like one with authority? Give examples from the Sermon on the Mount.

**③ EMBRACE His Word (Application)** (For Community Group discussion)

Why does this MATTER to me?

13. What are some practical examples of wise living that come from the Scriptures?

14. Jesus taught with authority. Can teachers teach with authority today?

15. What things do we need to practice in order to be better at living by God's Word?

16. When is it difficult to live according to God's Word?

Summarize your thoughts on the passage

**Write about what God wants you to KNOW, to FEEL, and to DO...**