



A Bible Study of Boones Creek
Christian Church

Date: August 25, 2024

Opening Question:

- (1) Have you ever stood on the beach and let your feet sink into the sand as the waves washed up and then receded? If so, was it hard to stand there and keep your balance as the sand rushed out from your feet?
- (2) Have you ever tried building a house of cards? How easy does it come down? Do you think fastening them to a foundation that couldn't move would help?

Text: Read: Matthew 7:24-29

Further Questions:

- (1) Why would someone build upon the sand? Possible answers could be: no where else to build, not near water that would wash it away, built on stilts, etc. Look for the answers that "assume" there is no danger. The key is that it is still sand. Sand will never be solid enough in the long run as it will crumble and cause unevenness.
- (2) The word "therefore" starts out this passage. How does building on sand versus rock tie into the teaching about good fruit and bad fruit and those who call out to Jesus but aren't really his? This teaching is based on those who obey or do not obey. They are either gone to put Jesus' words into practice, produce good fruit, obey the Father's will and create a strong foundation built on Christ – or not. So therefore means that those who obey will use that faith and obedience to build a strong foundation.
- (3) What do the rain, the streams and the wind represent in this teaching? Problems will always come. Jesus says "in this world/life you will have trouble, but take heart I have overcome the world" – John 16:33. The rain, the streams and wind represent the false teachers, the wolves, the trouble, the enemy, the storms of life, etc.
- (4) The text says, "he taught as one who had authority, and not as their teachers of the law." What do you think the difference was? (This is in reference to all the teaching over the last several weeks, not just this section.) Possible answers could include: The Pharisees and teachers of the law often quoted other rabbis and other sources a lot in their teaching. Jesus spoke directly without quotes. He spoke as one with authority because it was his words or Scripture alone. Jesus also spoke directly. He didn't try to hide the meaning – it was clear and to the point. It was sharp and succinct. It cut to the heart.

- (5) Look back at the verses found in Matthew 7:15-29. Find at least three distinct things Jesus is asking us to do. Possible answers: Watch out, Watch out for false prophets, bear good fruit, do the will of the Father, hear these words of Jesus, put Jesus' words into practice, build a strong foundation on the words of God.

Application:

- (1) There is a clear decision and ultimatum given in each section of Matthew 7:15-29. What is Jesus asking us to do in each section? (Matthew 7:15-20, Matthew 7:21-23, Matthew 7:24-29) Possible answers: don't be deceived/bear good fruit – otherwise be thrown into the fire. Do the Will of the Father in heaven or be cast away from God as evildoers. Put the words into practice and build a strong foundation or fall and be swept away.
- (2) What is keeping us from obedience? Answers will vary
- (3) What would you say is the key to building the strongest foundation? How would you teach someone to go about doing that? Answers will vary