

B U I L D T H E

HOUSE



GENEROSITY – August 6, 2017

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In this series we will address three fundamental principles that we are striving to build in our house, City Church. If applied, we will build a strong and thriving house for years to come.

Types of Foundations

Matthew 7:24-27, “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. 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. 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. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.”

- Jesus is teaching us that the foundation upon which we build the house of our lives is of the utmost importance.
- **Consider the Comparisons**
 - Both Heard the words of Christ
 - Both Built Houses
 - Both Built in the same location
- **Consider the Contrasts**
 - House of Sand cannot withstand the testing of life.
 - Sand is unstable, ever changing and moving.
 - Sand offers no stability
 - Sand never provides a firm foundation
 - House of Rock means that at times it gets battered but it can stand against the storms that come against it.
 - Rock builders hear the Word of God, the Gospel, and make it the foundation of their lives.

- We, City Church, must understand that we must build our house on the Rock, the firm foundation, of Jesus Christ.

Generosity is the Foundation of our House

2 Corinthians 8:9, For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.

- Paul calls us as Christians to embody the generous character of God revealed through Jesus.

Life Principles of Generosity

1. God owns everything; I am His money manager
 - Psalm 24:1, *The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it. The world and all its people belong to him.*
 - God has blessed us with much so that we can use it for His Kingdom and glory, not to keep for ourselves.
2. Your heart always goes where you put your money
 - Matthew 6:21, *Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.*
 - Your money and your heart are inherently and eternally linked together.
3. Tithing, giving 10%, to your local church is a Biblical principle and should be followed.
 - *Proverbs 3:9-10, Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine.*
4. Many times God prospers me not to raise my standard of living but to raise my standard of giving.
 - 2 Corinthians 8:7, *But since you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have kindled in you—see that you also excel in this grace of giving.*
5. Heaven, not earth, is my home
 - Don't get too attached to what you have here on earth.
 - *Philippians 3:20, But we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus lives. And we are eagerly waiting for him to return as our Savior.*