

Built to Last: Faith That Obeys

Before Jesus ever sends people out to serve or entrusts them with responsibility, He wants to know, *Will you obey me?* In Luke 6, Jesus was speaking to his *disciples*, religious people who had intentionally attached themselves to Him. And yet, Jesus does not congratulate them for all this. Instead, he stops them with a question that should have pierced their hearts: “Why do you call me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and don’t do the things I say?” In other words, are we just a hearer who admires Jesus, or a disciple who obeys Him?

I. The Danger of Verbal Faith Without Obedience

- A. Luke 6:46: *Why do you call me ‘**Lord, Lord,**’ and don’t do the things I say?*
 - 1. The people are calling him *Lord*, not once, but twice: *Lord, Lord*.
 - 2. On the surface, everything sounds right.
- B. Verbal faith sounds correct, but never reaches submission.
- C. If we call Him “Lord,” but refuse His authority, then we are dealing with self-deception.
 - 1. So this is about the direction of one’s life.
 - 2. We can never obey flawlessly, but we can obey willingly.

II. Luke 6:47-48: Obedience is the Foundation of a Life That Lasts

- A. Luke 6:47: Note how carefully Jesus defines a disciple: He comes to Me. He hears my words. He acts on them.
 - 1. To *hear* his words is more than exposure — **it is reception**, understanding, and submission to His teaching.
 - 2. To *act* on His words is obedience — doing what the gospel commands.
- B. Luke 6:48a: *He is like a man building a house, who **dug deep** and laid the foundation on the rock.*
 - 1. Digging deep speaks of repentance, seriousness, and a willingness to deal seriously with sin, self-deception, and spiritual bankruptcy.
 - 2. The foundation matters more than the house.
- C. Luke 6:48b: **When** the flood came, the river crashed against that house and couldn’t shake it, because it was **well built**.
 - 1. Floods come. Pressure hits. There will be tests we must endure as we go through life.
 - 2. This house stands. Why? Because it was **well built**.
 - 3. God equips people who are anchored.

III. Hearing Without Obedience Leads to Collapse

- A. Luke 6:49a: *But the one who hears and **does not act** is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation.*
 - 1. The second person hears Jesus, but does not act.
 - 2. He builds quickly, conveniently, and on the surface. But what is missing cannot be seen — until it is tested.
- B. Luke 6:49b: *The river crashed against it, and **immediately** it collapsed. And the destruction of that house was **great**.*
 - 1. *Why did it collapse?* There was nothing underneath it.
 - 2. Only a foundation built on Christ will stand.

IV. As We Close

- A. Digging deep means an honest reckoning with sin. (Psalm 51:17)
- B. Digging deep means abandoning self-righteousness. (Isaiah 64:6)
- C. Digging deep means submitting to Jesus as Lord. (John 8:31)
- D. Digging deep means continuing when no one is watching. (1 Peter 1:6-7)
- E. Digging deep prepares us to stand and to serve. (2 Timothy 2:21)
- F. Have you dug deep, or have you only built high? Who are you building your life on?