

ESTABLISHED: BUILT ON THE ROCK (Week 3)

Text: Matthew 7:24–27 (KJV)

Big Idea: Obedience, not exposure to truth, determines stability.

INTRODUCTION

Every life is building something. Every decision lays a brick. Jesus ends the Sermon on the Mount with evaluation, not inspiration.

POINT I – BOTH BUILDERS HEARD THE SAME WORD

(vv. 24, 26)

Knowledge is not the difference. Obedience is.

There is no difference in access. No difference in opportunity. No difference in instruction. The difference is response.

One heard — and did. The other heard — and did not.

Jesus makes it plain: information is not transformation.

An established life is not built on what you know —it is built on what you obey.

Hearing without obedience creates spiritual illusion.

POINT II – OBEDIENCE IS THE FOUNDATION OF WISDOM

Wisdom is truth applied patiently.

(v. 24)

Jesus calls the obedient builder wise. Not because he knew more but because he built carefully.

Foundations are not glamorous. They take time. They cost effort. They require patience.

You cannot rush foundations. You cannot shortcut obedience. You cannot fake stability.

Wisdom is built one obedient step at a time.

Choose slow faithfulness over fast results.

POINT III – STORMS REVEAL FOUNDATIONS

Storms expose what peace conceals.

(vv. 25, 27)

Jesus repeats the same language intentionally.

Same rain. Same floods. Same winds. Same pressure.

The storm does not discriminate. The difference is not the storm it is the foundation.

Storms do not destroy strong houses. They expose weak ones.

An established church does not pray for no storms it prepares for them.

Pressure reveals what peace conceals. Storms are not evidence of failure they are examinations of foundation.

If you are under pressure right now:

- it does not mean God has abandoned you
- it does not mean your faith is pointless

It may mean God is revealing what needs strengthening.

Let the storm teach — not terrify. Let pressure strengthen your obedience, not weaken it.

POINT IV – SAND BUILDS FAST, ROCK BUILDS LAST

Convenience sacrifices stability.

(vv. 26–27)

Sand is easy. Rock is costly. Sand allows speed. Rock demands effort.

Sand does not require depth. Rock requires digging.

But what is easy to build is easy to lose.

The foolish builder did not reject truth; he simply refused obedience.

He wanted the house without the cost of the foundation.

Established lives choose difficulty now to avoid collapse later.

Convenience is often the enemy of stability.

Ask yourself:

- Am I choosing speed over substance?
- Am I settling for what is easy instead of what is eternal?
- Where is God calling me to dig deeper?

Rock-built lives may not impress at first, but they remain when others fall.

Choose depth over ease.