

- People asking questions on life, purpose, faith – questions not asked of God, but asked of AI ... AI presents itself as all-knowing, understanding, a friend to confide in, a voice to be trusted ... AI provides answers that are often down the middle ... AI learns from mistakes so that answers are perfected each time ... AI pulls the best information from across the internet ... On the backend, its coding is handled by developers, who input guiding principles and values ... So, answers AI present are never value-neutral ... There's a guiding worldview imbedded in how AI answers ... Whose worldview is being called upon and acted upon
 - Answers to our questions are mixed with truth and opinion and distorted truth ... All held up together as a viable answer ... It's not that we should never use AI as a resource, but we need to practice discernment in sifting through what's true and beneficial ... We can't keep asking questions of ourselves, trusting answers we provide, and bypass asking questions of God, trusting answers He provides
 - Google stats – searches related to faith mostly come from “Bible-belt” area, with Sunday being highest ... “State of Theology” results ... More concerned with the attacks coming from within the church – Paul and Peter give strong caution to be on guard (see [Ac20:29-30](#), [2Pe2:1-2](#), [2Co11:13-15](#))
- A parable is typically a story drawn from everyday experience to illustrate the central truth of God's message ... All parables tie to message of God's Kingdom, even if not directly referencing the Kingdom of God ... Illustrate what it means to live as belonging to God's Kingdom – your values, your character, your obedience, your faith ... Some are easier to understand than others ... Caution in reading too much into a parable, forcing it to say more than it means
- Jesus gives this parable to close His sermon (similar to [Mt5-7](#)) ... He makes a bold statement, then illustrates what He's saying ... If you confess Jesus to be your Lord, then you're confessing you're no longer calling the shots ... If He's Lord, then you're following Him ... If you're not following Him, then you're still in control, and He's not your Lord ... Jesus remains Lord regardless ... How you recognize Him shapes how you follow Him – how your foundation's built
 - **RYLE: LET IT BE A FIXED PRINCIPLE IN OUR FAITH THAT OBEDIENCE IS THE ONLY SOUND EVIDENCE OF SAVING FAITH AND THAT TALK ALONE IS WORSE THAN USELESS.** ... Obedience to what Jesus says is evidence of saving faith, not the grounds for saving faith ... Our faith should naturally produce fruit, such as Spirit-led obedience, Christ-like character ... Why is talk alone worse than useless? ... Because you know what to do, yet you refuse to do it (see [Jm1:21-25](#))
 - Be cautious in examining the lives of other people, before putting your own life under a microscope ... *Lord, expose the areas in my life that need Your refinement* ... Every exposure means to drive you to Christ ... Going through hard seasons, struggling with sin, wrestling with doubt and questions – not signs that you've fallen away or that you don't recognize Jesus as Lord ... We shouldn't easily give up on others or ourselves
- There's a cost to following Jesus ... Hard work is involved that's uncomfortable and trying – surrender, self-denial, dependence on Christ, mind renewal, character development ... This is coming to Him, hearing His words, and acting on them – [Mt11:28](#) ... This is being rooted and built up in Christ – [Cl2:6-7](#)
 - While the outward appearance of both houses is much the same, the foundation is the difference ... This is revealed by what comes against it ... A good foundation doesn't exempt you from experiencing hardship ... A good foundation enables you to endure regardless of the hardship ... The only good foundation on which to build your life is Jesus Christ ... **BEGG: WHEN THERE'S BEEN A PERSONAL ENCOUNTER WITH JESUS, THEN IT WILL BE APPARENT BECAUSE OF THE TRANSFORMATION THAT TAKES PLACE**