

Words To Live By

What we know about parables...

1. They used every day objects, events and images to communicate important truth
2. They were designed to test, not the intelligence, but the spiritual responsiveness of the hearer
3. They give us a glimpse into God's kingdom and we are given insight by listening carefully and thoughtfully to the words of Jesus

Words To Live By

The Kingdom of heaven is like... (what we have learned so far)

- The Sower
- The Weeds
- The Prodigal Son
- The Workers & the Vineyard
- The Unmerciful Servant
- The Talents
- The Tenants
- The Mustard Seed & the Yeast
- Website: www.gcalliance.org

Words To Live By

The Setting

- Jesus is finishing a sermon that he has been preaching to the crowds following him
- The Sermon is recorded in Matthew 5-7 and is known as the "Sermon on the Mount"
- Jesus has laid out his most exhaustive teaching on the Kingdom of Heaven and ends with a parable.
- At the end of the sermon the people are in awe and are amazed by Jesus' teaching

Words To Live By

Observations from the 2 Builders (Matthew 7:24-27)

1. Two Builders

- One builder is wise and one is foolish
- Both builders are described as “hearers” of the words of Jesus
- The builders respond to Jesus’ words in different ways
- Both builders begin construction on a house

Words To Live By

Observations from the 2 Builders (Matthew 7:24-27)

2. Laying the Foundation

- The wise builder chooses to lay the foundations for his house on a rock
- He is the one who puts into practice what he hears
- The foolish builder lays his foundation in the sand
- He does not put into practice what he hears

3. Bad Weather

- A great storm passes through the area
- The two houses are battered by winds, floods & rain

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Observations from the 2 Builders (Matthew 7:24-27)

4. Storm Report

- The storm passes and we get a report from Jesus
- The wise builder who built on the rock – his house has made it through the storm and is still standing
- The foolish builder who built on the sand – his house has not survived the storm and it fell with a great crash

Words To Live By

Lessons from wise & foolish builders (Matt 7:24-27)

1. The Words of Life

- Matt 7:21 – only those who do the will of the Father will enter the kingdom of heaven
- What we do in this life matters – there will be an accounting
- Salvation is for today as well as for the future
- Our lives are to be built on Jesus' words – they are life!
- Rejecting/ignoring the words of Jesus lead to destruction
- This can be extended to all of Jesus' teachings as well as all of the Bible

Words To Live By

Lessons from wise & foolish builders (Matt 7:24-27)

1. The Words of Life

- A.W. Tozer: “There is no salvation without lordship”
- We cannot say we are followers of Jesus and have accepted his offer of salvation if he is not also the lord of our lives
- How can Jesus be lord of your life if you only hear or read what he says, but don't put it into practice?
- If he is our “Lord” we must submit to his teachings
- How do you know what God desires of you if you do not know what he says?

Words To Live By

Lessons from wise & foolish builders (Matt 7:24-27)

2. The Wise & the Foolish

- Why do we think we know best all the time?
- Wisdom is a major theme throughout the Bible
- Jesus' call for us to be wise is echoed throughout the Scriptures

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Lessons from wise & foolish builders (Matt 7:24-27)

Proverbs 8:32-36

32 "Now then, my sons, listen to me;
blessed are those who keep my ways.

33 Listen to my instruction and be wise;
do not ignore it.

34 Blessed is the man who listens to me,
watching daily at my doors,
waiting at my doorway.

35 For whoever finds me finds life
and receives favor from the LORD.

36 But whoever fails to find me harms himself;
all who hate me love death."

Words To Live By

Lessons from wise & foolish builders (Matt 7:24-27)

2. The Wise & the Foolish

- Why do we think we know best all the time?
- Wisdom is a major theme throughout the Bible
- Jesus' call for us to be wise is echoed throughout the Scriptures
- Proverbs 8:32-36
- Foolishness is also a major theme in the Bible
- Foolishness is the outcome of living life according to your own ways instead of God's ways

Words To Live By

Lessons from wise & foolish builders (Matt 7:24-27)

3. When Storms Come

- It's not a matter of "if" the storm comes, but "when"
- The promise from Jesus is that if we follow him and make him the lord of our lives, we will be able to make it through anything in this life
- Where will you turn when the storms of life come crashing in on you?

Words To Live By

Lessons from wise & foolish builders (Matt 7:24-27)

1. The words of life

- Is Jesus the lord of your life? Are you putting his words into practice?

2. The wise and the foolish

- Who knows what is best for you?

3. When storms come

- Where will you turn when your life turns upside-down?