

11/9 Sermon Discussion Guide

The Way of Jesus

2025.11.02

Leader Info

Announcements

- Puzzle and Game Exchange
 - November 14th
 - 6:00pm - 8:00pm
 - Bring games and puzzles to trade and get some new supplies for the winter!
- Spirit of Giving
 - Throughout the month of November we're collecting warm clothing and supplies for blessing bags
 - The Homelessness and Food Insecurity Kingdom Community will organize the supplies and get them to the people who need them
 - Collecting through the month of November
 - Find a list online or a card in the lobby
- Blood Drive
 - Monday November 24th from 2:00pm - 7:00pm
 - Register online
- Christmas Family Movie Night
 - Friday December 5th
 - 6:00pm - 8:30pm

- Come enjoy popcorn, hot chocolate and a Christmas movie while you connect with others from church!
- Movie TBD

Leader notes

The parable of the two builders is a picture that reminds us that it is only by hearing and doing the words of Jesus that we can have a strong foundation. The problem is it's much easier to hear the words of Jesus, than it is to hear *and do* the words of Jesus. This story is a challenge to not confuse the two because authentic faith requires action.

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."

Questions for the group

Checking in

1. Highs / Lows from the week.
2. What's a phrase your parents said a lot while you were growing up?
3. Check in on any action steps from the week before.

Quick review

Looking back at your notes from this week's sermon, was there anything you heard for the first time, caught your attention, challenged you, or confused you?

Getting Practical

1. Have you ever had a storm-like moment where the foundation of your faith/life was revealed? What happened? What did you notice? Where were you stronger than you expected? Where were you weaker? Did you make any changes after that storm?
2. Why do you think it's so easy for Christians to hear Jesus' words but not actually do much with them? Why is it easy to turn being a Christian into a set of intellectual beliefs instead of a way of life?
3. How do you personally struggle with this dynamic? Where in your life is it easy to believe or hear and not actually live any differently? Where is your faith "sandy"?
4. On the flipside where do you think your faith is solid ("rocky")? Where do you think you're living into hearing *and* doing? Was this always easy for you, or was it a longer process to bringing it all into alignment?
5. One of the things Drew talked about was how faith founded on sand can make excuses in order to not have to follow Jesus' teachings. Have you noticed that in your own life?
6. There's an endless number of ways we don't measure up to the perfect life of Jesus and it seems impossible to focus on all of them. How can we know when we're making excuses for ourselves vs exercising wisdom around what to focus on right now?
7. How can we live out this teaching to hear and do without resorting to just fixing ourselves? What does it practically look like to take this seriously while still being grounded in God's grace?

Looking Forward / Action Steps

Prayerfully reflect on the following questions

- Is my faith solid or sandy? Ask God to reveal the specific areas to begin living out.
- Where might there be misalignment between what I say I believe and what I live out?
- Sit with curiosity

Practice

- Read through the Sermon on the Mount, picking one practice I can apply this week

Prayer Requests