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O F G R O W T H

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*Give it a Year*

*Week 01*

# WEEK 01



## Matthew 7:24-27

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“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.”  
(NIV)

When building a home, creating the foundation is the longest part of the process because it has to be done just right. It has to be solid. It has to be strong. It is important to get the foundation correct because it holds up the weight of all that will be on top of it.

We are taught about foundation even from a very young age with the story of “The 3 Little Pigs”. The story goes like this: 3 Little Pigs go out and build a house. Pig 1 builds their house out of straw. Pig 2 builds their house out of sticks. Pig 3 builds their house out of bricks. Pig 1 and 2 build their houses quickly and then enjoy fun and partying. Pig 3, however, takes their time to make sure the house is strong and sturdy. Then a Wolf comes by and wants to destroy the Pigs. The Wolf quickly destroys Pig 1 and 2’s house by simply blowing their houses down. The Wolf moves on to Pig 3’s house yet he cannot blow this house down because of its strong structure and firm foundation.

Jesus spoke about a very similar parable in Matthew 7: 24-27

## READ Matthew 7: 24-27

Jesus is saying that when the storms of life come (or when the wolves come like for the Pigs), if our house isn't built on God's foundation, it will crumble. But what are the storms of life? Storms are anything that disrupts the status quo of your life. This can range from: job loss, health issues, money issues, marital problems, friendship issues, the loss of a loved one, etc.

If our foundation is in Christ, then there is NO storm (or wolf) too big to tear us down because our foundation is solid. If our foundation is built on the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ Jesus, we will not crumble when the troubles of this world come against us. However, this doesn't mean that the storms of life won't come for us, it just means that when they do come, we will not be destroyed because our foundation was firmly built on The Rock.

Yes, it's devastating when these storms come, and they will fill us with many emotions that are all ok to feel. This scripture isn't saying that we won't feel these things if our foundation is in Christ; however, it is saying that these storms won't take us out.

The problems that you are facing in your life right now, do not have to take you out. They do not have to cause you to crumble, if your foundation is built on Christ. And if you are reading this and you are realizing that your foundation has not been built on Christ, then it's not too late to tear down some walls, crack open that foundation, and then rebuild your life on the teaching of Jesus Christ.

REFLECT:

- Is your foundation built on Christ?
- Where in your life do you need to tear down some walls and rebuild?
- Think back on a time when a “storm” came in your life. How did you respond? What would you have done differently?

PRAYER:

Father God, Thank You that You offer me a firm foundation that the world cannot provide. Help me to trust You even amongst the storms of life. Allow me to lean on Your words and open my eyes to the Holy Spirit's guidance. Bring to my mind any areas that I need to tear down because it wasn't built on Your foundation and give me the courage to start again. In Jesus Name I pray. Amen.