***THE EASTER CODE***

**Lenten Worship Series – Week 3**

***Code Word:* Choice**

**March 12, 2023**

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| **WORSHIP SERVICE OUTLINE**SEach worship outline contains all elements needed for your worship service. The order of each service presented is only a *suggestion*. No doubt changes will be needed to accommodate the flow and worship style of your corps. The outlines are flexible and allow opportunities to “cut and paste” as needed. If you are blessed with instrumental or vocal music resources, you may find there is more structured material here than needed. Sermon manuscripts are included as a *sample* and not to be preached verbatim. |

**[*Project* “Week 3.QRCode”***(in Graphics file)* ***or below words on screen as people enter*]**

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| ***Code Word:* Choice*****The core enemy in our struggle with sin is not wrong behavior,*** ***but the idolatry behind the behavior.*** |

**Announcements and Offering**

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| **Drama – Equipped for Battle** |

**Call to Worship:**

Do you tend to think that spiritual warfare doesn’t include you? Have you fallen into thinking that because of your involvement in the body of Christ and its ministries that there could be no idols in your life? Have you assumed a level of personal spiritual safety that may not be true?

Spiritual war is what messes up our friendships and causes us to get ourselves into hopeless debt. Spiritual war causes us to eat too much and to go to places on the internet we should not go. Spiritual war causes us to be materialistic, entitled, and demanding, never quite satisfied and never truly happy. We are all in a war, whether we know it or not.

(*Journey to the Cross,* pp. 89, 92)

**[*Put scripture below on screen.*]**

**13**Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. (Ephesians 6:13, NIV)

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| **SB#819/HC#202 – O Church, arise**  | TB-777HC-202 | No HT CD HCD19-T12 |
|  **Additional Optional Songs** |
| **SB#319 – For the mighty moving of Thy Spirit** | TB-616 – same  | No HT CD |
| **SB#329 – Who is it tells me what to do** | TB-854 – That’s the Spirit | No HT CD |
| **SB#334 – Give us a day of wonders** | TB-235 – To the uttermost He saves | No HT CD |
| **SB#392/HC#212 – Teach me to dance** | TB-850 – same HC-212 | No HT CDHCD20-T12 |
| **SB#690/SS#172 – When we walk with the Lord (Trust and Obey)** | TB-522 – sameSS-172 | HTD7-T18 (3 vs.) |
| **HC#145/SS#171 – Trust and Obey** | HC-145SS-171 | HCD13-T15 |
| **SB#982/SS#153 – Stand up, stand up for Jesus** | TB-232 – sameSS-153 | HTD4-T14 (4 vs.) |
| **SB#882 – O happy day that fixed my choice** | TB-29 – O happy day | HTD10-T9 (3 vs.) |
| **SB#56/HC#251 – Praise to the Lord, the Almighty** | TB-735 – Lobe den HerrenHC-251 | HTD4-T11 (4 vs.)HCD24-T11 |
| **SB#401/HC#152/SS#62 – We want to see Jesus lifted high** | TB-916 – same HC-152SS-62 | No HT CDHCD14-T12 |
| **HC#237 – Cornerstone** | HC-237 | HCD22-T17 |

**Invocation**

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| **Children’s Moment – Choice**  |

***The Wise and Foolish Builders***

**Scripture Reading: Matthew 7:24-29**

[Scripture can be read by one person, split up into a responsive reading, or as a “readers’ theater using *The Voice* version - <https://www.biblegateway.com/> ]

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| **SB#804/HC#261/SS#76 – How firm a foundation** | TB-500 – FoundationHC-261SS-76 | HTD8-T4 (4 vs.)HCD25-T11 |
|  **Additional Optional Songs** |
| **SB#708 – I want the gift of power within** | TB-443 – Mozart  | HTD12-T11 (4 vs.) |
| **HC#237 – Cornerstone** | HC-237 | HCD22-T17 |
| **HC#287 – Build My Life** | HC-287 | HCD27-T17 |
| **SB#38/HC#298 – Jehovah is our strength** | TB-200 – DarwallsHC-238 | HTD1-T7 (3 vs.)HCD28-T18 |

**Testimony of Faith – [Choose someone from the congregation who can testify on this theme.]**

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| **SB#12 – Eternal God, unchanging** | TB-213 – AureliaHC-286 | HTD1-T2 (3 vs.)HCD27-T16 |
|  **Additional Optional Songs** |
| **SB#565/HC#89/SS#43 – All I once held dear (Knowing You)** | TB-725 – sameHC-89SS-43 | No HT CDHCD7-T19  |
| **SB#708 – I want the gift of power within** | TB-443 – Mozart  | HTD12-T11 (4 vs.) |
| **HC#247 – Still, My Soul, Be Still** | HC-247 | HCD23-T17 |

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| ***Code Word:* Multiply****“Go into all the world and make disciples.” - Matthew 28:19** |
| **DESCRIPTION:** During the Lenten season we will have an opportunity to take 6 weeks to intentionally fast and pray for the salvation of others. The goal and focus on ‘Multiply’ is to share our faith and to develop an *urgency of salvation* mindset for those who do not have a relationship with Jesus Christ; and to invite congregants to fast/pray for salvation of others. It would be wonderful to celebrate on Easter Sunday the people who have accepted Jesus as their Savior! |
| **SUPPLIES NEEDED:** a prayer box on the holiness table (clear case works best); cross which fits inside the box; prayer cards printed on card stock (on three different colors – *see samples in Graphics file*); pens. |
| **VISUAL/INTERACTIVE PRAYER:** During the pastoral prayer portion each Sunday, the meeting leader will invite people to participate in 3 different ways, either writing the name of: 1) **someone for whom you are praying for salvation** (white card)2) **someone to whom you have witnessed this past week** (green card)3) **someone who has accepted Jesus as their Savior** (red card)and placing that card in the prayer box on the holiness table. |
| * Explain the evangelism “visual”
* “Multiply” – fill out cards/place in box on holiness table
* Prayer time as people put cards in box
* Pastoral Prayer
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**Message – *Code Word:*  Choice**

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| **SB#255/HC#286 – I’m set apart for Jesus** | TB-213 – AureliaHC-286 | HTD3-T3 (3 vs.)HCD27-T16 |
|  **Additional Optional Songs** |
| **SB#708 – I want the gift of power within** | TB-443 – Mozart  | HTD12-T11 (4 vs.) |
| **HC#247 – Still, My Soul, Be Still** | HC-247 | HCD23-T17 |
| **SB#201/HC#137/SS#66 – Thank you for the cross, Lord (Worthy Is the Lamb)** | TB-947 – sameHC-137SS-66 | No HT CDHCD12-T17 |
| **SB#208/SS#63 – When I survey the wondrous cross**  | TB-875 – The wonderful cross HC-94 – Lamb of God (use vs. 2 as chorus)SS-63 | No HT CDHCD8-T14 |
| **SB#409/HC#77/SS#136 – Change my heart, O God** | TB-584 – sameHC-77SS-136 | No HT CDHCD6-T17 |
| **SB#439/HC#139 – There is a message** | TB-879 – sameHC-139 | No HT CDHCD12-T19 |
| **SB#376/HC#219 – King of kings, majesty**  | TB-722 – sameHC-219 | No HT CDHCD20-T19 |
| **SB#736/HC#102/SS#115 – Tell me what to do to be pure (Whiter than the snow)** | TB-932 – sameHC-102SS-115 | HTD9-T19 (3 vs.)HCD9-T12 |
| **HC#29 – Psalm 103**  | HC-29 | HCD2A-T19 |
| **HC#48 – God So Loved the World** | HC-48 | HCD3-T18 |
| **HC#52 – When I Remember That He Died for Me**  | HC-52 | HCD4-T12 |
| **HC#54 – In Moments Like These**  | HC-54 | HCD4-T14 |
| **HC#87 – Passion** | HC-87 | HCD7-T17 |
| **HC#94/SS#97 – Lamb of God** | HC-94SS-97 | HCD8-T14 |
| **HC#123/SS#55 – Shine on Us** | HC-123SS-55 | HCD11-T13 |
| **HC#136 – We All Bow Down**  | HC-136 | HCD12-T16 |
| **HC#160/SS#125 – I Surrender** | HC-160SS-125 | HCD14-T20 |
| **SB#595/HC#173 – In This Quiet Moment** | TB-186 – same HC-173 | No HT CDHCD16-T13 |
| **HC#205 – Closer Still**  | HC-205 | HCD19-T15 |
| **SB#699/HC#207/SS#88 – Every promise we can make (Grace Alone)** | TB-640 – same HC-207SS-88 | No HT CDHCD19-T17 |
| **HC#214 – Holy Spirit**  | HC-214 | HCD20-T14 |

**Benediction:**

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

([Hebrews 13:20-21](http://www.christianity.com/bible/search/?ver=niv&q=hebrews+13%3a20-21), NIV)

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| **HC#309 – Go in Peace, Go in Love** | HC-309 | HCD29-T19 |
|  **Additional Optional Songs** |
| **SB#861/HC#149/SS#41 – In Christ alone** | TB-132 – same HC-149SS-41 | No HT CDHCD13-T19 |
| **SB#89/HC#161/SS#48 – O for a thousand tongues to sing (My Great Redeemer’s Praise)** | TB-59 – AzmonTB-75 – GrimsbyHC-161SS-48 | HTD3-T4 (4 vs.)No HT CDHCD15-T11 |
| **HC#128 – My Tribute**  | HC-128 | HCD11-T18 |
| **HC#198 – In Jesus’ Name**  | HC-198 | HCD18-T18 |
| **SB#358/HC#241/SS#30 – Crown Him with many crowns** | TB-162 – Diademata HC-241SS-30 | HTD1-T8 (4 vs.)HCD23-T11 |
| **SB#1031/HC#283 – Lord, if Your presence** | TB-740 – same HC-283 | No HT CDHCD27-T13 |
| **SB#241 – And can it be** | TB-445 – Sagina  | HTD4-T13 (4 vs.) |

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| **Lent 2023 – Week 3** |
| **DRAMA****Equipped for Battle****By Martyn Scott Thomas**© Copyright 2010 by Martyn Scott Thomas. All rights reserved. Used by permission. |
| **Topic:** | Spiritual warfare, the Armor of God |
| **Scripture:** | Ephesians 6:10-18 |
| **Synopsis:** | A man tries to outfit himself as a true soldier of God. |
| **Characters:** | Bradley – a man who wants to be a soldierPatrick – his friend (more sensible) |
| **Props/Costumes:** | Casual dress. A table, a large paper shopping bag, a belt, a pair of tennis shoes, a pocket knife, a hard hat and a bottle of sun screen. |
| **Setting:** | Patrick’s house. |
| **Running time:** | 4 minutes |

[*Patrick is standing center stage near the table when* *Bradley enters carrying a large shopping bag and sets it down triumphantly on the table.*]

**Bradley:** Well, I’ve finally done it!

**Patrick:** Done what?

**Bradley:** I’ve decided to become God’s soldier, waging war against the spiritual darkness of this world.

**Patrick:** Wow, I’m impressed. What’s in the bag? [*reaches hand toward bag to peek inside*]

**Bradley:** [*slaps Patrick’s hand*] Not so fast. It’s my armor.

**Patrick:** Your what?

**Bradley:** My armor. You know, the armor of God.

**Patrick:** [*disbelieving*] You bought armor? And it’s in that bag?

**Bradley:** Not exactly. And yes, it’s in the bag.

**Patrick:** Oh, I have to see this.

**Bradley:** In due time. But first, I just want to thank you for all your help in bringing me to this decision.

**Patrick:** What do you mean?

**Bradley:** Well, you’ve been a good friend and have been patient, bringing me along in my faith.

**Patrick:** I know you’d do the same for me. Besides, it’s a pretty important decision. I’m glad you finally made it. Now, what’s in the bag?

**Bradley:** Okay, so you know how we were reading in Ephesians last week in Bible study?

**Patrick:** Yeah . . .

**Bradley:** So I kind of used that as my guideline for what to buy.

**Patrick:** And . . .

**Bradley:** Voilà! [*pulls a belt out of the bag*]

**Patrick:** [*unimpressed*] It’s a belt.

**Bradley:** Yes, the belt of truth. Or at least the closest I could find. It says “genuine leather.” [*shows the belt to Patrick*]

**Patrick:** Well, look at that.

**Bradley:** [*sets the belt down*] Wait. There’s more. [*pulls a pair of tennis shoes out of the bag*]

**Patrick:** Tennis shoes?

**Bradley:** Yeah, so my feet are fitted and I’m ready for spreading God’s peace, or something like that.

**Patrick:** I see. What else do you have in there?

**Bradley:** [*pulls out a pocket knife*]

**Patrick:** Is that a Swiss Army knife?

**Bradley:** Not exactly. It’s a Swedish Army knife.

**Patrick:** And what part of the armor is that?

**Bradley:** Well, I couldn’t find a sword. Actually, I found one, but they wouldn’t sell it to me, so I came up with the next best thing.

**Patrick:** A pocket knife?

**Bradley:** But it has all these cool attachments.

**Patrick:** [*losing interest*] Anything else?

**Bradley:** [*pulls a hard hat out of the bag*] Yes, my helmet.

**Patrick:** Wait a minute, are you going to battle or are you going to work on a construction site?

**Bradley:** Very funny. It’ll protect me. [*knocks on hat*] See? It’s hard.

**Patrick:** I don’t think you’re getting the full meaning of that Ephesians passage.

**Bradley:** I know. Some of this stuff was really hard to find. So I had to make some substitutes.

**Patrick:** Like what?

**Bradley:** Well, a shield. I must’ve gone to a dozen stores, but I couldn’t find anything. And I didn’t want to use a garbage can lid because I thought I’d look silly.

**Patrick:** [*to himself*] Too late. [*to Bradley*] So what did you substitute?

**Bradley:** [*pulls a bottle of sunscreen out of the bag*] Sunscreen.

**Patrick:** Sunscreen?

**Bradley:** [*proudly*] Spf 75.

**Patrick:** Bradley, I’m really happy that you’ve decided to become a soldier of God, but I think you’ve taken this all a bit too literally.

**Bradley:** Really?

**Patrick:** Yes, you don’t have to have actual armor. It’s more figurative; symbolic.

**Bradley:** Well actually, I’m glad to hear that because I had a really hard time finding a breastplate.

**Patrick:** So what did you get?

**Bradley:** I’m afraid to show you.

**Patrick:** Come on, it can’t be that bad.

**Bradley:** [*holds bag open so Patrick can look inside*] I feel kind of icky.

**Patrick:** [*shocked*] Is that a . . . ?

**Bradley:** Sadly, yes.

**Patrick:** [*holding back laughter*] And you were planning on wearing that?

**Bradley:** I really didn’t want to.

**Patrick:** [*peeking in bag again*] Oh, my.

**Bradley:** Can I return these things now? [*puts items back in bag*]

**Patrick:** Yes, please. And I’ll drive. Then when we’re done, we can stop and get a bite to eat and discuss that Ephesians passage again.

**Bradley:** [*picks up bag*] I’d really like that.

**Patrick:** Me, too. [*they exit*]

[*Blackout*]

***THE EASTER CODE***

**Children’s Moment – Week 3**

***Code Word:* Choice**

**March 12, 2023**

**by Katie Laidlaw**

**Synopsis:** The Code Word series focuses on 7 topics, from the perspective of scientists working in “The Code Lab” in order to find the secret ingredients to living out the power of the resurrection.

**Costume:** lab coat, goggles/glasses, gloves, mustache

**Set-up/Staging:** Small table or rolling cart with props.

**Props:** Ziploc bag filled up with water, several SHARP pencils (smooth make, no edges/ridges)

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| **Week 3 – Choice** |

**[*Invite children to come to the front, either having them stand or sit for the lesson.*** (I personally recommend having the children stand, as this helps keep them attentive, engaged, and involved in the lesson—especially with the dynamic of the congregation “watching them.” In this more public/formal setting, sitting provides a more relaxed/informal mindset, allowing the children to disengage and merely be present in the moment.)**]**

**Script:**

You are going to love what we are researching today in The Code Lab! I was talking to one of my lab partners about this week’s experiment. Unfortunately, we ran into a little bit of a bump in the road with the direction of our experiment. We had to make a choice to determine which direction our project would go.

What does it mean to make a choice? [*Allow children to respond*]

Why is it important to make good choices? [*Allow children to respond*]

Did you know that God gave us the gift to make choices from the very beginning of time? When God created Adam and Eve, he gave them only one instruction. Do you remember what instruction God gave Adam and Eve? [*Allow children to respond*]

Right! God only asked one thing of Adam and Eve: do not eat from the tree in the center of the garden (Genesis 3:3). Well, we know that Adam and Eve both made a choice: they ate from the tree God instructed them to stay away from.

Instead of creating us to be machines that run automatically, God gave us the ability to make our own choices. God loves us so much, that He wants us to show Him the same love in return by choosing Him through making the right choices according to His word.

Throughout our lives, we will have the opportunity to make many choices. The choices we make can actually build our lives into something amazing…or tear us down.

There is a story in the Bible about some people wanting to build houses. One person built their house on rock, and the other person built their house on sand. A crazy storm came; the rain was falling, the wind was blowing, and it began to flood!

Which house was able to survive the storm? [*Allow children to respond*]

That’s right! The house built on the rock!

Watch this…

[*Hold up Ziploc bag of water*] When we build our lives on Jesus, who is a solid foundation, our choices will reflect who Jesus is and help our lives remain solid. When we build our lives on other things, we make poor choices, which cause us to lose focus and feel lost, sad, or confused as a result of our choices.

When our lives our built on Jesus, no matter what we go through [*stab pencils through bag one by one*] we have a firm foundation of love, strength, peace, and joy to help hold us strong and help us continue to make good choices.

Colossians 2:6-7 (NIRV) says, **“6 You received Christ Jesus as Lord. So keep on living your lives in him. 7Have your roots in him. Build yourselves up in him. Grow strong in what you believe, just as you were taught. Be more thankful than ever before.”**

What are some choices we can make to help us build a strong foundation on Jesus? [*Allow children to respond*]

I think those are great choices we can make to become better friends with Jesus.

Well, I think we have completed some fantastic work here in the lab today. I’ll see you all next time!

[*Pray.*]

**Main Points:**

* God loves us so much, that He wants us to show Him the same love in return by choosing Him through making the right choices according to His word.
* The choices we make can actually build our lives into something amazing…or tear us down.
* When we build our lives on Jesus, we have a firm foundation
* Building a strong foundation helps us make good choices

**Questions:**

* What does it mean to make a choice?
* Why is it important to make good choices?
* What are some choices we can make to help us build a strong foundation on Jesus?

***THE EASTER CODE***

**Lenten Sermon – Week 3**

***Code Word:* Choice**

**March 12, 2023**

**By Lt. Adam Hines**

**TITLE: *Code Word:* Choice**

**THEME: Wise and Foolish Builders**

**SCRIPTURE: Matthew 7:24-29**

**INTRODUCTION**

[Share a story of being “wonderfully broken” or “saved from danger”; a story of a great calamity that revealed how dangerous the alternative could have been. Find something with the climax of, “If it hadn’t been for…”

Then share a story of a strong foundation that wasn’t visible without danger/trials; a personal story when you depended on a strong training as a foundation for success in a difficult situation.]

Today is the third week in our Lenten season. We have been looking at “code words” which help us to unlock the blessings of Easter as we journey to the cross.

Jesus gave a beautiful sermon recorded in Matthew 5-7, and today’s text (Matthew 7:24-29) is the conclusion of the sermon. It seems rather short for such a long sermon!

In it, Jesus teaches in the immediate context (Matthew 7:13-23) of three different sets of choices:

* + - 1. Wide or narrow gate 🡪 easy destruction or difficult the road that leads to life. (Green 108)
			2. False or true teachers 🡪 barren tree or attractive fruit?

Fruit that will show that there is a Gardener at work (Green 109)

* + - 1. Obedient people vs lawbreakers 🡪 “Lord, Lord” (hearers who did what they thought; lawbreakers) or the one who do the will of the Father (obedient people).

**Theological Aim: A life of obedience to the Father’s will is a life that is founded on and hidden in Christ.**

**Read Scripture: Matthew 7:24-29.**

**MAIN POINTS:**

1. **We are all building a house**
	1. Wise and foolish builder 🡪 the adjective that gets attached is our choice.
		1. House can mean different things
		2. Four key identities in Scripture (Medina and Knuth, n.p., 2016)
			* 1. Life
				2. Marriage
				3. Ministry
				4. Nation – the house of Israel
			1. The text does not describe the houses – this would detract from the focus of the story!
		3. The two builders are not (on the surface) much different from each other (Richardson 51).
			1. They both heard Jesus teach – there was not a better teacher possible, yet some built foolishly.
			2. Wise defined in the Bible = one who applies spiritual truths to life’s decisions
				1. True wisdom is putting Jesus words into action
				2. Diligent, contemplative, prayerful, aware
				3. Everyone knew that the next tempest could wipe out everything
				4. Sensible means judicious
			3. Fool defined in the Bible = the inability to apply spiritual truths to life’s decisions
				1. Know-it-all
				2. Casts aside Jesus teaching as though it has nothing to offer
				3. The fool never thinks it all the way through

Temporal vs eternal thinking

* + - * 1. He settles for an idol, for sand is “like” rock
		1. People don’t realize what adjective to use until the storms come and expose the foundation

*CHALLENGE: Do people accuse you of being a hearer and doer of God’s Word?*

1. **We all build a house on a foundation**
	1. Foundations for strong houses were founded on stone of local origin that was minimally hewn (meaning rough cut)
		1. Compared to a stone that was of divine origin
			1. Isaiah 28:16 – See I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame (cited in 1 Peter 2:4-6).
			2. Two foundations:
				1. Rock (wise)
				2. Sand (fool)
		2. Eiffel Tower (citation for the following information (ii) is in Works Cited page)
			1. At a depth of 23 feet below the ground they found hard, compact clay
				1. 3-4 tons per square foot
			2. The river changed the soil for two pillars
			3. The dug down to 40 feet and they found fine, compact sand (what we call rock)
				1. Pressure test determined that depth held 1600 pounds per square inch compared to 500 lbs. per square inch above
		3. Rock foundation is the Word of God
			1. It is deep and hard to get to, but its secure
			2. Requires rest and work
			3. Requires obedience and sacrifice
		4. Sand foundation
			1. Sand is easy and requires little effort
			2. Sand is a path of least resistance
			3. Sand is human knowledge
			4. Sand is a self-made person
			5. Sand requires neither obedience nor sacrifice
			6. Sand is your will and not God’s will
		5. What people do with the Bible
			1. Wise man – made it the foundation of his
				1. Life
				2. Marriage
				3. Ministry
				4. Nation
			2. Foolish man – made it an accessory added to his
				1. Life
				2. Marriage
				3. Ministry
				4. Nation
			3. The Bible is not simply information, but it does contain information
				1. Moses, hold your staff and God parted the sea
				2. Mary, roll away the stone on Lazarus’ grave
				3. The power is there, but the choice must be made to act!
		6. We can’t live skyscraper lives built on fence post foundations

*CHALLENGE: Are you building your house on the only foundation that will bear the weight?*

1. **It is the storms of life that reveal our foundations**
	1. We all have a choice in the storms of life
		1. Until the storm came, both builders looked identical
		2. It (the storm) revealed who made what choices
			1. The wise builder put Jesus’ words into action
			2. The foolish builder didn’t
		3. Storms exploit the weaknesses of a house until the entire house is damaged
			1. Winds lift a shingle on the roof, then rips the square off, then the plywood, and pretty soon, the entire structure is destroyed.
			2. Water finds a crack in the foundation and your basement fills with water
		4. The storm hits and the cheap, foolish Christian builder’s house and it falls. What does the world see in their response?
			1. Jesus wasn’t enough for them, why would he be enough for me?
		5. Why are the storms so important to understand? (Jameison 31)
			1. Storms were necessary for the survival of the people along the Jordan 🡪 they give us a chance to rebuild before it’s too late
			2. Storms give us immediate knowledge of disobedience
				1. Mark 4 – jesus told them he would get them to the other side
				2. Halfway across the Lake and the men are concerned
			3. You can’t fix the foundation in the middle of a storm
				1. But people do cry out for God to do something in the middle of it!
			4. There is a storm coming in which there will be total destruction
				1. This is the judgment at the end of the world.
	2. The integrity of a tower or structure is not determined by how high it stands but by how deep the foundation goes
		1. Our foundation went to the lowest possible place – crucifixion as an innocent man to pay for your sins and mine

**CONCLUSION**

**KEY CHALLENGE: How much of your life does the Father have?**

* Can you confidently say that your hope is built on nothing less than Jesus’ blood and righteousness?
* If you are being battered by the waves of a storm right now, name that storm and bring your prayers to the altar.
* Do you need to tear down your current house and start anew on the foundation of Jesus Christ?

**Works Cited**

Green, Michael. [*The Message of Matthew: The Kingdom of Heaven*](https://ref.ly/logosres/bstus61mt?ref=Bible.Mt7.13-27&off=2224&ctx=poses+the+question%2c+~%E2%80%98Have+you+gone+throu). InterVarsity Press, 2001.

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