

Living an Indestructible Life

Matthew 7:24-29

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Take-Home Truth: Followers of Jesus live indestructible lives.

THE KEY ELEMENTS OF THE PARABLE

So then, everyone who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵Heavy rain fell; floods rose up; the winds blew and beat on that house. It didn't fall, because it was founded on the rock. ²⁶And everyone who hears these words of mine and doesn't do them—they will be like a foolish man, who built his house on the sand. ²⁷Heavy rain fell; floods rose up; the winds blew and battered the house—and it fell down! It fell with a great crash. ²⁸And so it was, when Jesus finished these words, that the crowds were astonished at his teaching. ²⁹He was teaching them, you see, on his own authority, not like their scribes used to do. Matthew 7:24-29 (N.T. Wright)

- “. . . hears these words of mine and does them . . .” = real-life apprenticeship with Jesus

And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus . . .
Colossians 3:17 (ESV) [I learn to do everything I do on behalf of Jesus, in the place of Jesus.]

- Life in the kingdom of heaven = becoming the kind of person whose actions naturally conform to God's law
- How are we to apprentice with Him?
 - We find ways to be with Jesus. We develop an interactive life with God.
 - We learn to watch and listen to Jesus in the Scriptures.
 - We choose to obey what we hear God telling us to do in the Scriptures and through His Spirit. Eventually, love becomes the primary motivation for what we do.

Video) Listen to Francis Chan as he gives this classic take on obedience. (Show YouTube video.)

- *“It didn’t fall, because it was founded on the rock.”* = an indestructible life

Why indestructible? Because believers learn to live life in a posture of confident reliance upon God.

- *“. . . hears these words of mine and doesn’t do them— . . .”* = real-life adventures in the “kingdom of me”

APPLICATION: Communion Statement

- Jesus, as You have laid down your life for me, I lay down my life for You. I choose to be Your apprentice.
- Spirit, I invite You to progressively transform my heart.
- Father, I receive Your grace in the midst of the process. I decide this day to live in confident reliance on You.