



God's Wisdom



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“Teaches biblical wisdom in a way that is clear, fun, and engaging for children.” —Marty Machowski

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Jesus Is the Sure Foundation

Suppose you want to build a house from blocks. You can't just build the house in the air. You have to build it on something, on a foundation. Would it be better to build your house on a table, or on a ball? Why?

It would be very foolish to build your house on a ball, wouldn't it? Even if you built the house well, just one small roll of the ball could make the house tumble down. But a table is strong and stable. It is a good foundation for a house of blocks.

Jesus told a story about two men who built houses and the foundations they used. One man was wise and built his house on a rock foundation. The other was foolish and built his house on the sand. Do you know what happened to the two houses when the rain came and the wind blew? The house on the rock stood firm. But the house on the sand **"fell, and great was the fall of it"** (Matthew 7:24–27).

Would you rather be like the wise man or the foolish man? Jesus said wise people are those who hear His words and put them into practice. They are like the man who built his house on a rock. They have a sure, strong foundation for life. But those who hear the Word of God and do not practice it—do not obey it—are foolish like the man who built his house on the sand. Their foundation isn't good. It's shaky and weak, and someday they will fall with a great crash.

Adam and Eve had a good foundation. They had a relationship with the living God. They walked and talked with Him. He gave them all they needed. He was their Creator, Protector, and Provider. He was also their Ruler, telling them to live in obedience to Him. God was the solid, sure, strong foundation for Adam and Eve.

But they were like the foolish man who hears the Word of God and does not practice it. They chose to step off the sure foundation of trusting God, and they disobeyed God and turned away from His rule. They foolishly chose the sandy

foundation of sin, selfishness, pride, and disobedience. And “great was the fall” of Adam and Eve . . . and of all people because

by the one man’s disobedience the many were made sinners. (Romans 5:19)

Adam’s disobedience brought sin into the world, and those born after him were born in sin.¹ Here is one way to understand this:

Cows have baby . . . cows.

Dogs have baby . . . dogs.

Sinners have baby . . . sinners.



1. With the exception of Jesus.

Horses are never born to cows, and cats are never born to dogs. Cows have baby cows, horses have baby horses. So sinners have baby sinners. Just like “cow-ness” or “cow nature” is passed on from the mother and father cow to the baby, so sin nature is passed on from Adam and Eve to their children, who pass it on to their children, who pass it on to their children . . . to us. So we are born with a sin nature. We are born on a shaky foundation of pride, selfishness, and disobedience—a foundation of sin.

But God made a way of rescue from the sandy foundation.

For as by the one man’s disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man’s obedience the many will be made righteous. (Romans 5:19)

Just as sin came through one man, Adam, rescue from sin and foolishness and a sandy foundation came through one man—one man who obeyed God perfectly, had no sin, paid the price for foolishness and disobedience, and died for undeserving sinners. Do you know who that man is?

He is Jesus, the sinless, perfect Son of God. Jesus died on the cross to take the punishment for sin, to rescue man from his foolish, sinful heart, and to place those who trust in Him on a strong, sure foundation. Through one man came sin, and through one man, Jesus, came salvation from sin.

People build their lives on all kinds of foundations. Their foundations are the things they trust in—like money, friendships, good looks, possessions, or abilities like being good at sports or music. These are shaky, sandy foundations. When the rains of problems and the winds of death come, these foundations wash away. They can’t last.

But there is one foundation that is solid and will not wash away. That foundation can stand the rains of problems and the winds of death. It is a sure, strong, solid foundation, and it is the *only* sure, strong, solid foundation for life.

For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. (1 Corinthians 3:11)

Trusting in Jesus is the sure foundation for rescue from sin and the power to live in obedience to God, practicing His Word. Wise people build their lives trusting in Jesus; foolish people grab on to sandy foundations. What is your foundation? Do you want to be wise or foolish?



LEARNING TO TRUST GOD

- ✦ Read the story of the wise man and the foolish man in Matthew 7:24–27. Is just knowing about God enough to save you? What are some of the “**words of mine**” that Jesus talked about?
- ✦ Read Philippians 3:3–9. What are the two foundations Paul talks about in these verses? What is the difference between these foundations? What is “**faith in Christ**”?
- ✦ **Activity:** Try building something on different kinds of foundations. How important is the foundation? As a family, think of a way you can tell someone about the sure foundation of faith in Jesus and then follow through this week (e.g., tell them the gospel story, show them a movie with a gospel message, write a note, etc.).