



YOU'VE HEARD IT SAID (Part 1) - "Where We Find Stability"

Matthew 7:24-29 NIV

24 "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. 25 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. 26 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. 27 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash."

28 When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed (astonished) at his teaching, 29 because he taught as one who had authority, and not as their teachers of the law.

Hebrews 7:18-19 NIV

18 The former regulation is set aside because it was weak and useless 19 (for the law made nothing perfect), and a better hope is introduced, by which we draw near to God.

Matthew 5:17-20 NIV

17 "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. 18 For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. 19 Therefore anyone who sets aside one of the least of these commands and teaches others accordingly will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. 20 For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.

Key Points

- *The words of Jesus are a profound challenge to what we depend upon for control.*
- *Stability is a marker of maturity and a result of trust.*
- *Every human needs a foundation to support the weight of our hopes and our emotions.*
- *What we depend upon for our security is the foundation we trust.*
- *Stability is finding peace and security in all circumstances because of our trust in Christ.*
- *Christ's fulfillment is accomplished as we learn not only to live out but to live as His people.*
- *Christ ushered in a way in which we can navigate the chaos faithfully and full of hope.*
- *It is not "how" we navigate the world but the kind of people we are as we navigate.*
- *Our identity contributes more to navigating this world than our skill at navigating it.*

READ

Open your time together by reading the Scripture passages on Page 1. Then, take a moment to consider what you just read:

- Read Matthew 5:17-20. What are the implications that Jesus serves as the fulfillment of the law? In light of Jesus fulfilling the law, how does this affect your approach to obedience and adherence to biblical principles?
- Read Matthew 7:24-29. How does this parable prompt self-reflection on the choices we make in building the foundation of our lives, and what practical steps can individuals take to ensure a stable spiritual foundation in their faith journey?
- Read Hebrews 7:18-19. The text mentions that the law made nothing perfect, but a better hope is introduced through which we draw near to God. How does this better hope in Jesus Christ address the inadequacies of the old law, and how does it enable believers to have a closer relationship with God?

REFLECT

- Christ ushered in a way for us to navigate chaos faithfully and full of hope. How does this way differ from other approaches to navigating challenges?
- How does stability act as a marker of maturity?
- Why is it significant for every human to have a foundation supporting the weight of hope and emotions?

RESPOND

- How have you personally experienced the words of Jesus challenging what you rely on for control in your life? How has this influenced the way you see your circumstances?
- What do you depend upon for your stability and security?
- What is the condition of the foundation you trust?

PRAY

Close your time together with prayer requests. Ask how you can pray, support, and lift one another up. Pray over these requests collectively or by breaking into prayer partners.