



Life Group Study Notes

“Campus Sunday: Building On The Rock”

Ps. Ron Lewis - September 4, 2016

Warm Up (10-15 minutes)

Choose a question below to answer, or ask another. No right or wrong answers.

- What is your favorite home of those you have lived in? Why did you like it so much?
- If you could build your dream house, what room would you care the most about for its design?
- What's the worst place you ever stayed in overnight? Why was it so bad?

Word (10-15 minutes)

Sermons can be heard online at www.bethelworld.org

Matthew 7:21-28 NASB "*Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them, may be compared to a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and yet it did not fall, for it had been founded on the rock. Everyone who hears these words of Mine and does not act on them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and it fell-and great was its fall.*"

Building on the rock...is tough.

It is not easy. It would be easier and quicker and initially less costly to build on sand. To build our lives on Christ is harder, takes longer, and is more costly. But in the long run it is worth it.

Following Jesus requires self-denial and sacrifice. Obedience is not always easy. It can cost us relationships, economic or professional advancement, and our comfort.

Jesus said anyone who would follow him will have to pick up his or her cross and deny himself or herself. The reward, however, is immeasurable: eternal life.

Building on the rock...is about action.

To build our lives on Jesus requires our active pursuit of him and our active engagement in his mission. But a false understanding of God's sovereignty will breed passivity, while self-absorbed laziness only results in inaction. We must deliberately give ourselves to discovering and doing God's will.

We must be consistent in seeking God, in applying Scripture, and in advancing God's kingdom. We must pursue our individual and our church callings. We must never tire and quit doing the basics of prayer, Scripture reading, worship, fellowship, evangelism, and discipleship.

Jesus said if we love him, we will obey him. Obeying him involves our active participation.

Building on the rock...takes time.

Building on Jesus involves an investment of time in our daily and weekly routines. Taking time to seek God, to join in worship services, to fellowship with believers, and to serve God's people means that we have to give up other things.

Following Jesus is a life long endeavor requiring a deep personal commitment. It is not a sprint. It's a marathon. We must persevere to receive the rewards Jesus has for us.

Jesus said that the person who follows him and endures to the end will be saved. They are the ones who inherit eternal life and all the blessings of the age to come.

Discussion (10-15 minutes)

Choose an item below to discuss, or introduce another related point for discussion.

- What has been difficult for you regarding following and obeying Jesus?
- What motivates you to invest your time in seeking, serving, and obeying God?
- What action step is God calling you to do at the present time?

Prayer (10-15 minutes)

Pray for any of the following, as well as any other requests you may have.

- Verbalize to God the beauty of his holiness, the greatness of his love, and the perfection of his righteousness. And then tell him he is worthy of your entire devotion.
- Ask God to show you some specific thing he wants you to do at this time in your life.
- Ask God to show you some specific thing he wants you to give up at this time in your life.