

# On The Wind

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## House on the Rock

by Jay Ayers

Jesus once told a story about a couple of guys who had built homes for their families. The first one built his house with the foundation on bedrock. The other fellow built his house on sandy ground. Then the storm came. The rain fell, there was a flash flood running down the street, the wind was ferocious. The first guy's house weathered the storm, and it stood up just fine, because it was founded on rock. But the other house – well, that didn't work out so well. The waters were sweeping the sand away, the wind was howling, and the house fell with a terrible crash.

Jesus said, "Whoever hears my words and puts them into practice is like that first guy; whoever hears my words and doesn't put them into practice is like that second guy."

Now ask yourself this question. Which of these two is like those who just don't hear what Jesus says? Yeah. It's kind of a trick question, isn't it? Jesus set up the story so that we'd see that both men were like people who hear the word of Jesus. Wait, what? Yep, that's right. Look at Matthew 7:24-27 if you think I'm making this up. Jesus was very specific: the difference isn't in whether we listen to what he said. It's what we do next that counts. The difference comes in whether or not we do what Jesus said.

So here's an interesting two-part experiment. Part 1. What's something that Jesus said that really resonates with you, and you pretty much strive every day to put that into practice? That's good. Keep at it. You've got half of a strong foundation there.

Part 2. What's something that Jesus said that you struggle with, where you find his words challenging and it's hard to imagine how you could ever do what he says? Maybe it's washing the feet of your neighbor, or giving up your judgmentalism, or selling everything in order to feed the poor, or taking the gospel to the ends of the earth. When are you going to build the other half of your foundation on the rock, matching up with the half from Part 1, so that you're no longer just hearing the word of Jesus, but putting it into practice?

## Westminster Woods 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary October 4<sup>th</sup>

Go to [www.pbysk.org](http://www.pbysk.org) or [www.westminsterwoodscamp.com](http://www.westminsterwoodscamp.com) to make your Lunch Reservations for this event. Reservation deadline is Sept 15<sup>th</sup>.

Visit [www.westminsterwoodscamp.com](http://www.westminsterwoodscamp.com) to see all the events offered on October 4<sup>th</sup> during the Celebration!



Kids and volunteers at **Grace Presbyterian Church** cooked up some fun with their "Heaven's Kitchen" VBS program, June 23-27. Pictured: girls enjoying a shaving cream game time.

What fun **Mt. Vernon Presbyterian Church** had with the "Little Twinkies Class" (Pre-K through 1<sup>st</sup> Graders) during the "Adventures of the Treasure Seekers" VBS held on July 21-25.



Kids (pictured above) loved the VBS music time!

At **FPC, Hutchinson**, the VBS theme was "Weird Animals: Jesus' Love is One of a Kind." VBS took place June 23 – 27. On Sunday June 29<sup>th</sup> there was a VBS program during church.

**Covenant Presbyterian Church** also used the “Weird Animals” curriculum during their VBS held July 7-11. For music time, Covenant had a VBS band composed of middle school, high school and college students.



The theme for **Cambridge Presbyterian Church** VBS was “God’s Workshop.” It was held July 14-18. In the picture at left, Ernie Hull (using blocks of wood) talks to the VBS children during reflection time about building the temple. Also during the summer, the church served free lunches (government sponsored) and then,

after lunch on Tues and Thurs, Paula Hensen led a two hour “Summer Adventure” time for the kids.

**First Presbyterian Church, Independence** co-hosted 2014 VBS. “Weird Animal” theme continued at this VBS held July 14-18. Each night started with a great supptime!



**First Presbyterian Church, El Dorado** held VBS July 14-18. The theme was “Son Treasure Island” (based on 1 Corinthians 13). In this picture you can see the “ocean water” cascading down the sanctuary stairs!



**First Presbyterian Church, Caldwell** sponsored its first community wide all night VBS, “God’s Outdoors; Under the Stars”, on July 19-20. The church decided to provide an over-night “lock-in” type event. The evening was divided into two sessions with the younger children (Pre-school age thru 2<sup>nd</sup> grade) attending only the first session from 5:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. The older kids were invited to attend both sessions: bring sleeping bags and blankets to spend the entire night at the church. The following morning the younger children (as well as parents, relatives and friends) were invited back to the church to rejoin the “night owls” for breakfast and a morning worship service featuring a short program and big-screen slide-show of all the fun activities the kids enjoyed throughout the night.



“Wilderness Escape: Where God Guides and Provides” was the theme for **First Presbyterian Church, Arkansas City’s** VBS held July 20-24. The kids were the 12 tribes of Israel; visited Moses;

wandered in the desert; ate the manna and battled the Amalekites! FPC Arkansas City partnered with 3 other local churches.