

LIFEgroups

OPEN

Go around and let everyone answer...

What sort of rules are you inclined to ignore?
Which sort are you inclined to obey?
What criteria do you use to decide the difference between those you obey
and those you ignore?

DIG

Read Mathew 7:24-29 The Call of Obedience

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 at his teaching, ²⁹ because he taught as one who had authority, and not as their teachers of the law.

Have someone in the group retell the story Jesus told about two builders.
How are their houses similar? How are they different?

What is Jesus really using this story to compare?

What is the moral of Jesus's story?

As he teaches, his listeners notice that Jesus is different from their usual religious teachers.

What clues might they pick up from Jesus that would make them think that?

What conclusion did those clues lead them to make?

What did Jesus accomplish with this simple teaching?

APPLY

Do you believe Jesus is the single authority in the way you live your life?
Do you believe hearing and learning about Jesus is enough?
What in your life would change if you decided to obey what you know?

Is there someone who needs you to remind them of the two builders in Jesus's story?

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Leaders

Sermon Series

This discussion guide comes from the current lesson in a series from the Gospel of Matthew. This series focuses on Matthew's message of establishing that Jesus is King over all.

Big Idea

This lesson focuses on the call of obedience that Jesus gives for all who seek spiritual blessings. It is not enough to listen, understand or even agree. Applying the message is essential.

Group Discussion Reminder

These discussion guides typically follow the same topic or scripture passage that is used in the Sunday morning sermon at North Boulevard.

If your group enjoys reflecting on details of the sermon, you might ask each person to tell something they remember from the message. Make sure to do this in a way that engages any person who did not personally get to listen to the sermon.

Such a sermon discussion could take the place of the "open" discussion questions. If the group spends a lot of time reviewing a sermon, be sure to end the time with questions from the "apply" section because groups exist to help us live out the message.