

Summer Stories: The Parables of Jesus | Building On Rock

Jesus wanted people to experience God in their everyday world and He accomplished this by teaching in parables. A parable is theology through story. It's a spiritual truth about God and His kingdom expressed through the lens of normal, everyday things like parties, pearls, and planting seeds. The Kingdom of God isn't confined to a church building, it's active where we live, work, and play.

In Luke 6:46-49, Jesus challenges us about why we would call him Lord and then ignore what he teaches us to do. Current data for Christians in the U.S. tells us that we believe the right things about the Bible, but our lives do not change to express or follow what we believe. In order to build on the right foundation, we have to be engaged in reading our Bibles and prayer because we cannot do what Jesus Christ wants us to do if we don't know what that is.

Discussion Questions:

- 1. Describe your rhythms of spending time with God in the Bible including reading, studying, meditating, and seeking how to apply it. What, if anything, would you like to change about this method?
- 2. How have you experienced or seen the Bible used as a foundation for how we live day to day? Who encourages and inspires you (or could) to spend intentional time reading and studying the Bible?
- 3. What resources or people have you found helpful in drawing truth from the Bible and applying it to your daily life? Consider online tools like LOGOS Bible Software, Biblehub.com as helpful resources.
- 4. Share one area of life for which you would like a stronger or better foundation. What would you like to see added to this foundation? Spend some time asking the Holy Spirit to build into this foundation as each person shares.