

The Uncommon Kingdom: Houses

Jonathan Cleveland

Matthew 7:24-29

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Discussion and Reflection Guide

There is not an approach to following Jesus that avoids the storms of life

Nobody escapes the rains and the winds.

*How much time do you spend trying to avoid the rain – making the goal comfort or happiness?

*Have you ever believed following Jesus was a way to escape ‘bad weather’?

Faith in Jesus is about becoming who we were created to be in the midst of a broken world where it rains a lot

Read and discuss Matthew 7:24-27 (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.”

*How are the approaches of the two builders different?

*What does it mean to put his words ‘into practice’? How do you make the words come to life in you?

*What helps make a faith that can survive in any condition?

Jesus tells his followers that the thing that matters most is unseen

What is underground makes all the difference.

*What inward practices help build your foundation?

*How has internal, under-the-surface heart stuff affected your foundation?

The entire Sermon on the Mount creates a vision in our hearts

- The Kingdom of God does not operate the way the world does (Matthew 5)
- We relate to God out of security, knowing how deeply He values us (Matthew 6)
- Following Him looks like attuning to His voice and letting Him lead us (Matthew 7)

*How have you seen the words from the Sermon on the Mount come alive in your life over the past few months?

*What part of this sermon series has been most challenging to you?

The uncommon Kingdom is about genuine trust of God – connection & walking with Him

This foundation keeps our house standing in any circumstance.

*Have you ever experienced a spiritual crash in life?

*How is your foundation? What is under the surface of your faith?

*What do you sense the Spirit is showing you about your trust, your connection or the ways you are walking together?