Study on Matthew 7:24-27

**“Not everyone who calls me ‘Lord, Lord, will enter the Kingdom of heaven, but only those who do what my Father in heaven wants them to do.** When Judgement Day comes, many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord! In your name we spoke God’s message, by your name we drove out many demons and performed many miracles!’ Then I will say to them, ‘I never knew you. Get away from me, you wicked people!” *(Matt. 7:21-23).*

**\*So then,** **anyone who hears these words of mine and does them is like a like a wise man** **who built his house on rock.**   The rain poured down, the rivers overflowed, and the wind blew hard against that house.   But it did not fall, because it was built on rock.

**But anyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them is like a foolish man who built his house on sand.**    The rain poured down, the rivers overflowed, the wind blew hard against that house, and it fell. And what a terrible fall that was!” *(Matt.7:24-27).*

**\*Now that we have been put right with God through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ** *(Rom. 5:1).*

\*“**I have come in order that you may have life – life in all its fullness”** *(John 10:10).*

**\*“Don’t be worried and upset. Believe in God, and believe also in me. There are many rooms in my Father’s house, and I am going to prepare a place for you….**  **And after I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to myself, so that you will be where I am…** *(John 14:1-3).*

DVD Spot: **Matthew DVD, *the visual Bible*** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9E_jq8scNxM>

\*Matthew 7:21-29 *(46’ 39’’- 48’35”)*

Discussion Questions:

1) How has life been different for you during this Corona virus pandemic? Have you felt secure during this time?

What fears have you had?

2) How can you have a secure life without fear, *regardless of what is happening around you? Read Matt. 7:24-27*

3) How has your life been changed by following Jesus: by hearing his words and doing them? Share with one another how trusting in Jesus and following him has brought you peace, joy, and hope.

*Read Romans 3:20-28; 5:1; 8:1 re peace; John 10:10; Galatians 5:22-23; Phil. 4:4-7 re joy; John 11:25-26; 14:1-6; 1 Cor. 15:12-20; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 re hope.*

4) In a prayer book by the late pastor Allan Schreiber,

he writes:

**Because of Jesus and his life, death, and resurrection, I will never fear. I will trust you, dear God, now and always.**

What do you think of this prayer? Is it your conviction that you don’t need to fear? Talk about this.

5) How would you go about sharing this conviction with a family member or friend who isn’t a Christian? What would you say to him or her?

Quotes:

The following are quotes from Sunday’s message on the theme: “Build your life on the Lord Jesus Christ”

**\*Well, life has certainly been a bit different in the last few months or so, hasn’t it!? Things are easing up somewhat now, but life in this Corona virus pandemic time has been very different…. We have been doing all sorts of things in order to try to have a secure life, *rather than an insecure life: social distancing, washing our hands, keeping to ourselves, and so on….*** Now I’m not knocking any of these: I think that they are vitally important to save lives and to enable us to function as a society….

**But the question that I want us to think about his morning is: “How can you and I built a secure life without fear, *regardless of what is happening around us?”***

**\*Our theme for today is: “Build your life on the Lord Jesus Christ”. That’s the message that I believe God wants to say to each one of us today.**

**\*You and I are “mess-ups”, *“vomit faces” if you like,* in the eyes of God. We are all “sinners”, *to use the term that is used in the books and letters in the Bible.* In God’s sight, we all a look a lot like that smelly, messed up girl. This is our natural condition before God….**

**\*What’s the result of us receiving what God has done for us smelly, messes up people *through trusting in Jesus as our Saviour*? We are washed clean, and we have “peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ”** *(Romans 5:1).* We don’t need to live our life in with guilt and shame because of what we’ve done to hurt others in our life, and we don’t need to be afraid of what might happen to us in the future because of what we’ve done….

**\*I think that it’s true that our whole life is changed, *and the whole way in which we see life is changed,* when we “build our life on the Lord Jesus Christ”. “Joy” is one of the fruits of having the Holy Spirit of God living within us** *(Gal. 5:22-23****).* As we build our life on the Lord Jesus Christ, we can rejoice and smile because we know that no matter what we are loved and forgiven by God….** And because we know *through Jesus* what life is all about: it’s about loving and caring for one another and others….

**\**Through Jesus, God’s Son*, we know that “there is another world***(sing.)* **in which to sing”. And we know t*hrough Jesus* that we will be there with God, our dear Father in heaven, and with Jesus himself, and with all those who are God’s forgiven children, *if we are trusting in Jesus as our Saviour****.* **We have a certain “hope” for the future.**

\*Each morning, I read a prayer from the late Allan Schreiber’s little book entitled *Personal Prayers.* Can I share with you part of the prayer that I prayed on Tuesday morning, *day 9 of the book,* as I was writing this message:

**Because of Jesus and his life, death, and resurrection, I will never fear. I will trust you, dear God, now and always.**

**As we trust in Jesus as our Saviour, and live our life before God our loving Father in heaven, we don’t need to be afraid, regardless of what is happening or will happen. We have “peace” with God, we have an inner “joy” that no one or nothing can ever take away, and we have a certain “hope” for the future.**

**\***So as the Children’s Song puts it:

**So, build your house on the Lord Jesus Christ**

**All other grounds, *all other foundations* *for building a life on,* are sinking sand!!**