

# What's Holding You Up?

## Series

The Storyteller

## Speaker

Pastor Linda Armaly



**July 27, 2025**

## Key Scriptures

Matthew 7:24-27

John 16:33

1 Timothy 5:24

## Message Summary

As we wrap up our teaching series *The Storyteller*, we reflect on the incredible journey we've taken together through the parables of Jesus. From *The Good Samaritan* to *The Lost Sons*, each week has challenged us to examine our hearts and align our lives with Kingdom values.

Today, we close with *The Parable of the Wise and Foolish Builders*. In this story, Jesus reminds us that storms come for everyone—no one is exempt. But while we can't avoid the storm, we can choose where we build.

We realize that storms reveal what our lives are truly built on. If we build on sand—things like wealth, popularity, or pleasure—we risk collapse. But if we build on the rock, which is Jesus and His teachings, we remain anchored through every trial. And that requires action. We can't just hear God's Word—we must live it out. Jesus calls us to put His words into practice, to actually do what He says. So today, we decide as a community: we won't just admire Jesus' words—we'll apply them. We'll choose obedience over convenience, love over selfishness, and truth over comfort. Because when the storm hits—and it will—our foundation in Jesus will hold. Together, we build on the rock.

## Quotes



**The way of Jesus in this life does not always lead us out of the storm's path, but often through it.**

— Philip Yancey

## Prayer

Jesus, thank You for being my rock and firm foundation. I confess that I've sometimes built my life on things that won't last. Help me not just to hear Your words, but to live them out each day. Teach me to trust You in the middle of the storm, knowing that You are with me and will never leave me. Give me strength to stand, wisdom to obey, and faith to follow You no matter what comes. I build my life on You. Amen.

# Reflection

## What Do You Think?

Reflect on these questions independently or discuss them with your Life Group.

## Questions

**1.** Which part of today's message stood out the most to you, and why?

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**2.** Why do you think knowing God's Word isn't enough? What steps can we take this week to actively live out what Jesus teaches?

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**3.** What does it mean to you to "put Jesus' words into practice"? Can you identify one area of your life where you need to start doing this more intentionally?

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**4.** In what ways do storms reveal our foundation and how can we ensure that our foundation is on Jesus Christ alone?

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**5.** What are some "sand foundations" you've been tempted to build your life on? What would it look like for you to intentionally build on the rock of Jesus instead?

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