

## Foundations: Christ is our Rock

### A 5-day Day Devotional

#### Day 1: Building on the Rock

Reading: Matthew 7:24-29 (NIV)

"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. 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. 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. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash." When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at his teaching, because he taught as one who had authority, and not as their teachers of the law.

Devotional: Jesus concludes His Sermon on the Mount with a powerful image: two builders, two foundations, one outcome that endures. The difference isn't in the storm—both houses face the same wind and rain. The difference is in the foundation. When we build our lives on Jesus—not just His teachings, but on Him personally—we create something that can withstand life's inevitable difficulties. Consider today: are you building on the Rock, or have you been constructing your life on the shifting sands of your own wisdom, cultural trends, or temporary securities? The storms will come. The question is whether your foundation can hold. Jesus doesn't just offer good advice; He offers Himself as the bedrock of your existence.

#### Day 2: Knowing the True Foundation

Reading: Matthew 16:13-18 (NIV)

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?" They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets." "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.

Devotional: "Who do you say that I am?" This question cuts through all religious activity to the heart of faith. Peter's confession—"You are the Christ, the Son of the living God"—becomes the bedrock truth upon which Jesus builds His church. Notice that Jesus doesn't build on Peter himself, but on the truth Peter spoke. Your faith isn't ultimately about following rules, attending services, or even doing good works. It's about knowing who Jesus truly is: King, God incarnate, your foundation. Take time today to answer Jesus' question personally. Not who others say He is, not who your tradition says He is, but who do you say He is? Your answer to this question determines the stability of everything else you build in life.

### Day 3: The Invitation to Rebuild

Reading: Luke 19:1-10 (NIV)

Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way. When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly. All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner." But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount." Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

Devotional: Zacchaeus had built his life on wealth, power, and social advancement—a foundation that left him empty and despised. When Jesus invited Himself to Zacchaeus' home, He was offering something far more valuable: a chance to rebuild on solid ground. The tax collector didn't hesitate. He immediately recognized that what Jesus offered was worth more than everything he had accumulated. Perhaps your foundation has been cracking. Maybe what once seemed secure now feels unstable. Jesus extends the same invitation to you today: "I must stay at your house." He's not waiting for you to fix everything first. He's offering to help you rebuild from the ground up. The question is: will you, like Zacchaeus, recognize what truly matters and say yes?

## Day 4: What Are You Building?

Reading: 1 Corinthians 3:10-15 (NIV)

By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as a wise builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should build with care. For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. If anyone builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, their work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each person's work. If what has been built survives, the builder will receive a reward. If it is burned up, the builder will suffer loss but yet will be saved—even though only as one escaping through the flames.

Devotional: Standing on Christ as your foundation is essential, but Paul asks the next crucial question: what are you building on that foundation? Gold, silver, and precious stones represent works of eternal value—acts of love, service, and faithfulness. Wood, hay, and straw are temporary pursuits that won't survive God's refining fire. The good news? Even if your works burn up, you'll still be saved if you're on the right foundation. But why settle for barely escaping? God invites you to build something beautiful and lasting. Examine your life today: Are you investing in what matters eternally, or are you constructing with materials that won't last? Your foundation is secure in Christ—now build something worthy of that foundation.

## Day 5: One Desire

Reading: Psalm 27:1-14 (NIV)

The LORD is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid? When the wicked advance against me to devour me, it is my enemies and my foes who will stumble and fall. Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear; though war break out against me, even then I will be confident. One thing I ask from the LORD, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the LORD and to seek him in his temple. For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling; he will hide me in the shelter of his sacred tent and set me high upon a rock. Then my head will be exalted above the enemies who surround me; at his sacred tent I will sacrifice with shouts of joy; I will sing and make music to the LORD. Hear my voice when I call, LORD; be merciful to me and answer me. My heart

says of you, "Seek his face!" Your face, LORD, I will seek. Do not hide your face from me, do not turn your servant away in anger; you have been my helper. Do not reject me or forsake me, God my Savior. Though my father and mother forsake me, the LORD will receive me. Teach me your way, LORD; lead me in a straight path because of my oppressors. Do not turn me over to the desire of my foes, for false witnesses rise up against me, spouting malicious accusations. I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living. Wait for the LORD; be strong and take heart and wait for the LORD.

Devotional: "One thing I ask from the Lord, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life." The psalmist understood what Jesus would later make clear: when God is your foundation, He becomes your one desire. Not success, comfort, or even happiness—but Him. This singular focus brings clarity to every decision, strength in every storm, and peace in every uncertainty. As you conclude this devotional journey, consider: what is your one desire? If you could have anything, would it be for your life to shine for Jesus? When Christ is truly your foundation, He transforms from being just part of your life to being the purpose of your life. May your heart burn with fire for no one else but Him.