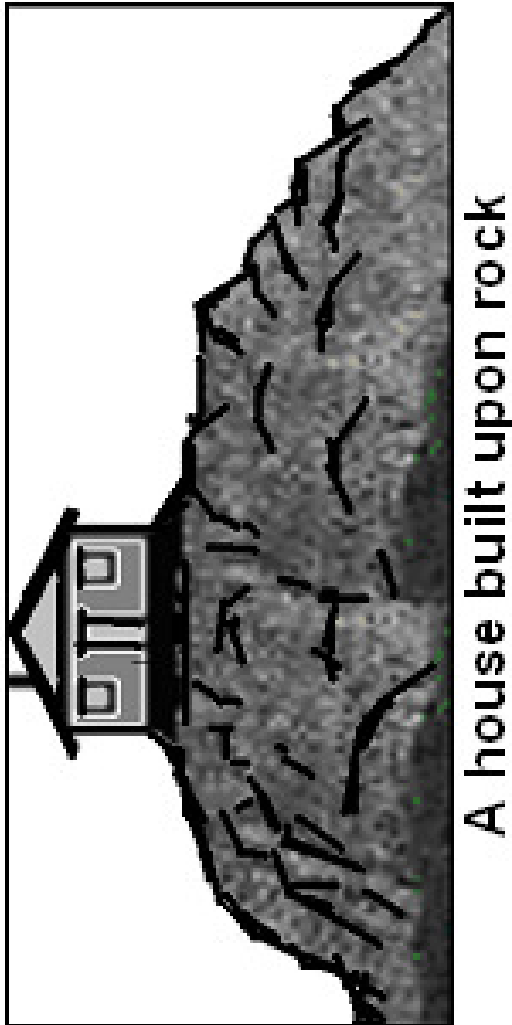


lives on you, our Solid Rock. Thank you, Jesus, for giving us eternal life that no storm or trouble can ever take away.”



We Obey Jesus

Teach Children to Be Obedient Followers of Jesus

Prayer. “Our Father in Heaven, please use this study to help the children to love Jesus and obey Him. In Jesus’ holy name, Amen.”

Choose children's learning activities that fit their ages and needs.

Let an older child or the teacher read from Matthew 7:24-29 the story about the Wise and Foolish Builders.

Ask the children to listen to what happened when two men responded differently to the teachings of Jesus.

Ask these questions. *[The answers appear after each question.]*

Which people are like the wise builder? *[See verse 24]*

How should we respond to Jesus’ words? *[See verse 24 We should put them into practice by doing what Jesus said we should do.]*

Which people are like the foolish builder? *[See verse 26]*

What made the foolish man’s house fall? *[See verse 27]*

Why were the crowds surprised at the way that Jesus taught? *[See verses 28-29. Jesus taught with authority.]*

Dramatize the story of the two builders, **Matthew 7:24-29**. Arrange with the leader of the congregational worship to have the children present this drama. Use your time with the children to practice the drama.

Let **older children** or adults play these parts:

- **Narrator.** Summarize the story and help the children remember their lines.
- **Jesus**



A man who built his house on sand

Let **younger children** play these parts:

- **Wise builder** (have a few blocks, rocks, or bricks)
- **Foolish builder** (have a few blocks, rocks, or bricks)
- **Storm** (several children)

Narrator: Tell the first part of the story from verses 24-25. Say, “Hear what Jesus says.”

Jesus: “If you put into practice what I say, you will be like this wise builder here.”

Wise builder: Set building blocks on top of each other. Say, “I build on this solid rock. I am obeying Jesus.”

Storm: Blow on the building blocks. (Do not make them fall over, for a wise man’s house remains standing in a storm).

Narrator: Tell the second part of the story from verses 25-29. Say, “Hear what Jesus says.”

Jesus: “If you only listen to what I say, you will be like this foolish builder.”

Foolish builder: Go a short way aside. Lay building blocks on each other. Say, “I am only listening to Jesus. I am building on sand. It is easier to prepare.”

Storm: Blow on the building blocks and push the blocks over. Say: “How amazing! Jesus expects people to obey him! The other teachers only expect people to listen to them talk.”

Narrator: Thank everyone who helped with the drama.

If the children dramatize this story for the adults, let them also ask the adults the **questions** that are listed above.

Ask the children: What are some things Jesus has commanded us to do that we should obey? (Let the children give examples.)

Let older children write a song, story or poem, or let them draw pictures illustrating what Jesus said, “If you love me, obey my commands” (John 14:15).

Draw a Picture of a house on a rock. Let the children copy it.

- Let the older children help the younger ones.
- The children can show their pictures to the adults at the next worship time and explain that this illustrates how to put Jesus’ words into practice. Believers must not merely listen to them; they must do what he said.

Memorize Luke 11:28.

Poem: Let four children each recite one of the verses from Psalm 18:2, 7, 15 and 16. Let them recite this for the adults, also.

Prayer: “Lord, we love to listen to your words. We also want to put them into practice. We want to be like the wise builder and build our