

OCT 11th, 2020

BEGINNING AT THE END  
Matt. 7:24-29

<sup>24</sup> “Everyone then who hears **these words** of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock. <sup>25</sup> The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on rock. <sup>26</sup> And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not act on them will be like a foolish man who built his house on sand. <sup>27</sup> The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell—and great was its fall!” (cf. Ez. 13:8-16; James 1:22-25)

<sup>28</sup> Now when Jesus had finished saying **these things**, the crowds were astounded at his teaching, <sup>29</sup> for he taught them as one having authority, and not as their scribes. – Matthew 7:24-29

“\_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_” are in reference to what we know as “The Sermon on the Mount.” Matt. 5-7; cf. Matt. 28:18-20

The foolish person \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_. Compare Matt. 7:24-29 w/ Ez. 13:8-16

The journey is an \_\_\_\_\_  
(\_\_\_\_\_ behind, with, and toward Christ). Matt. 4:17-25; 11:28-30; 28:18-20

*“Everyone then who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock.”*

**If you could see the end, how would it affect today?**

Questions to consider:

1. Who are you/we becoming and how is that happening?
2. What words of Jesus are/will be a daily invitation to choose a different way?

## TALK IT OVER

Talking through the message during the week can really help clarify the things that God is teaching you and let others learn from your experiences. Get with someone this week and talk about your answers to the following questions:

When you hear “The Sermon on the Mount,” what thoughts come to mind?

What thought from the message was most helpful to you?

What thought from the message was most challenging to you?

Read Matthew 7:24-29. How have you heard or understood the Parable of the Wise and Foolish Builder?

What happens when the focus shifts from simply hearing and doing, to a deeper understanding first of an implied journey?

Why is discipleship described as “lifelong learning behind, with, and toward Christ” significant?

Challenge: for the duration of this series, continue reading and reflecting on The Sermon on the Mount and the words of Jesus that are the most challenging invitations to you. What are some that you anticipate you would rather ignore and why? What are you hopeful for?

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“THESE WORDS/THESE THINGS” are in reference to what we know as “The Sermon on the Mount.” Matt. 5-7; cf. Matt. 28:18-20

The foolish person DIDN'T TAKE THE HARDER JOURNEY.  
Compare Matt. 7:24-29 w/ Ez. 13:8-16

The journey is an INTENTIONAL DISCIPLESHIP (LIFELONG LEARNING behind, with, and toward Christ). Matt. 4:17-25; 11:28-30; 28:18-20

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