

Luke

Carefully Investigating the Gospel ... Together

SSBC Luke Bible Study #20

Take this Bible Study home and use it to guide your exploration of the scripture passage that next Sunday's sermon will be focused on.

Passage: Luke 6:46-49

Sermon Date: Jan 29, 2006

Introduction:

“Why do you call me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do what I say?” Jesus’ sermon in Luke draws to a close with a challenge to his hearers to go beyond just hollow words, and to do what he has told them to do. He uses a simile of a man building a house that will soon be faced with flood conditions, and leaves us each wondering ... **“How’s my foundation?”**

In this week’s study, we’ll focus mostly on just that one theme – “How is our foundation?” To do this, we’ll use a different study format. While it may feel somewhat repetitive – stay with it, savor the truths that emerge, and pray as you go. In America we like to go fast, do a lot at once ... but as you probably know, there are many downsides to this approach. Instead, let’s slow down and focus well on what Jesus is telling us about wise and foolish builders. Moreover, let’s be wise builders, and not just say ‘Lord, Lord’ through our clever Bible study answers. Rather, let’s actually do what he says to do.

Lord Jesus, show us the way ...

This bible study was developed by South Shore Baptist Church in conjunction with our weekly sermon series. To hear a sermon on the same scripture passage covered in this bible study, come to one of our Sunday worship services (8:30am or 11:00am) on the date listed on page 1. Or after that date you can hear it by logging on to www.southshorebaptist.com/sermons/

*South Shore Baptist Church
578 Main Street, Hingham, MA 02043
(781) 749-2592*

A. Luke 6:46-49

⁴⁶"Why do you call me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say? ⁴⁷I will show you what he is like who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice. ⁴⁸He is like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built. ⁴⁹But the one who hears my words and does not put them into practice is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. The moment the torrent struck that house, it collapsed and its destruction was complete."

Interpretation: What do you hear this passage teaching?

Further Interpretation & Application:

In studying a Bible passage, it is usually helpful to use other related passages to help interpret and apply it. In this case, let's explore the theme of "building a foundation." A word search for other uses of the words foundation(s) and build/built/building gives us many passages to explore. Eight relevant ones have been selected for you to look at in detail in the following pages (you may want to explore some of the others on your own). Explore these passages to get a clearer view of what God's Word says about our foundation. For each one, keep in mind Jesus' emphasis in Luke 6:46-49 on doing what he says, and listen carefully to the Lord for what that means in your life today.

B. 1 Corinthians 3:10-17

¹⁰By the grace God has given me, I laid a **foundation** as an expert builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should be careful how he builds. ¹¹For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. ¹²If any man builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, ¹³his 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 man's work. ¹⁴If what he has built survives, he will receive his reward. ¹⁵If it is burned up, he will suffer loss; he himself will be saved, but only as one escaping through the flames.

¹⁶Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you? ¹⁷If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him; for God's temple is sacred, and you are that temple.

1. What does this passage teach about our foundation?

2. What are we told to do?

3. How does this apply to you right now?

C. Isaiah 28:16

¹⁶ So this is what the Sovereign LORD says: "See, I lay a stone in Zion, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone for a sure **foundation**; the one who trusts will never be dismayed.

Isaiah 33:6

⁶ He will be the sure **foundation** for your times, a rich store of salvation and wisdom and knowledge; the fear of the LORD is the key to this treasure.

1. What do these passages teach about our foundation?

2. What are we told to do?

3. How does this apply to you right now?

D. Haggai 1:2-11

² This is what the LORD Almighty says: "These people say, 'The time has not yet come for the LORD's house to be **built**.' "

³ Then the word of the LORD came through the prophet Haggai: ⁴ "Is it a time for you yourselves to be living in your paneled houses, while this house remains a ruin?"

⁵ Now this is what the LORD Almighty says: "Give careful thought to your ways. ⁶ You have planted much, but have harvested little. You eat, but never have enough. You drink, but never have your fill. You put on clothes, but are not warm. You earn wages, only to put them in a purse with holes in it."

⁷ This is what the LORD Almighty says: "Give careful thought to your ways. ⁸ Go up into the mountains and bring down timber and build the house, so that I may take pleasure in it and be honored," says the LORD. ⁹ "You expected much, but see, it turned out to be little. What you brought home, I blew away. Why?" declares the LORD Almighty. "Because of my house, which remains a ruin, while each of you is busy with his own house. ¹⁰ Therefore, because of you the heavens have withheld their dew and the earth its crops. ¹¹ I called for a drought on the fields and the mountains, on the grain, the new wine, the oil and whatever the ground produces, on men and cattle, and on the labor of your hands."

1. What does this passage teach about what people tend to build? (*While Haggai is talking specifically about building the temple, consider what God is saying here about the hearts of men.*)

2. What are we told to do?

3. How does this apply to you right now?

E. Ephesians 2:19-21

¹⁹Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household, ²⁰built on the **foundation** of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. ²¹In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord.

2 Timothy 2:19

¹⁹Nevertheless, God's solid **foundation** stands firm, sealed with this inscription: "The Lord knows those who are his," and, "Everyone who confesses the name of the Lord must turn away from wickedness."

1. What do these passages teach about our foundation?

2. What are we told to do?

3. How does this apply to you right now?

F. 1 Timothy 6:17-19

¹⁷Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. ¹⁹In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm **foundation** for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

1. What does this passage teach about our foundation?

2. What are we told to do?

3. How does this apply to you right now?

G. Summarize what you've learned about your "foundation" and what we are to build.

H. APPLICATION: Review your answers for the third question on each page above ("How does this apply to you right now?"). What are one or more specific actions that you want to do this week? What will you do? Who can help? What's the very first step you need to take (after asking God to help you)?