

**Glenview New Church Sunday Morning Program**  
**Preschool Lessons, Phase 1 - Lesson 17**  
**The House Built on a Rock (Matthew 7:24-29)**

**Theme:** The Lord Tells a Parable

**I. Underlying Ideas for the Teacher**

- A. All of the Word is a parable (a story that has a hidden meaning).
- B. We must look to the Lord for guidance rather than to ourselves, for only the Lord can speak with authority.
- C. In the parable of the house built on the rock, the rock means the Lord's truth, the sand means the opinions of men, and the rain, flood, and wind are the trials and temptations we face in life.

**II. Story Circle**

- A. Introduce the Story
  - 1. At Christmas we celebrated the Lord's birth into the world. He came on earth to teach people how to be good.
  - 2. The Lord told people stories, which showed them how to be good. These stories are called parables.
  - 3. Today we will talk about a story the Lord told about two houses.
- B. Tell/Read the Story
  - 1. Read or retell the parable from Matthew 7:24-29
- C. Ideas to Discuss
  - 1. Where did the wise man build his house? (On a rock)
  - 2. What happened to the house when the rain, floods, and wind came and beat upon the house? (Nothing. It stayed there on the rock.)
  - 3. Where did the foolish man build his house? (On the sand)
  - 4. What happened to the house when the rain, floods, and wind came and beat upon the house? (It fell.)
- D. Further Ideas

The Lord said that people who do what He says are like the wise man that built his house on the rock. And people who don't do what the Lord says are like the foolish man who built his house on the sand. Do you want to be like the wise man or like the foolish man? If you want to be like the wise man, then try to do what the Lord tells you to do in His Word!

## Preschool Sunday School Lessons: Phase 1 - Lesson 17

### III. Enrichment Activities

#### A. Music

1. "All that the Lord has spoken," *Hymnal* #245.
2. "When I'm Happy I Like to Sing," *First Songs*
3. "The House on the Rock," *First Songs*, pp. 32-33. (This is included to let the teacher know that there is a song specifically about this parable. However, it seems difficult for a preschool group.)

#### B. Activities

1. Make 2 houses out of Lego building blocks or wooden blocks. Place one on a rock and the other in sand, or imagine that they are placed on such foundations. Show how the house on the sand fell down when the rain, floods, and wind beat upon it. (You may want to use a plastic dishpan for the demonstration and actually pour water on the houses.) The house built on a rock should remain standing.

#### C. Project: A collage of the House Built on the Rock

1. Give each child a piece of blue or white background paper, a precut paper rock, and precut paper "bricks."
2. Children glue the rock to the bottom of the page. Then they glue the bricks from the rock upward, building a house. (Strips of paper may be provided for the roof.)
3. When the house is complete, add raindrops. The final touch is the text slip: "People who do what the Lord says are like the wise man who built his house on the rock."

### IV. Teaching Aids

- A. Pictures of the Lord speaking to people.
- B. Building materials such as blocks and Lego building blocks for the children to play with.
- C. A flat rock and sand, if possible.

### V. Further Reading for the Teacher

- A. Dole's *Bible Study Notes*, Vol. 4, pp. 317-318, 324-327.