

The Parable of the Wise and Foolish Man

Do you know what it means to be wise? A wise man is someone who knows the right thing to do and he does it.

In our story today we will learn about one man who was very wise and one man who was not so wise.

Listen closely and see if you can guess which man was wise...and which man was foolish.

One Day Jesus was talking to a group of people and He said, “If you hear my words and DO them, you are like this wise man.”

Then He told this parable.

**Who remembers what a parable is?
A Parable was a story that Jesus told.**

Usually the story was about something that everyone could understand easily.

Then He would use that story to teach them something harder to understand.

Listen closely and see if you can figure out what Jesus was trying to teach in our story today.

A wise man wanted to build a house.

He went out to search for just the right place. Soon he found some good, solid earth, and down under the earth was a strong rock. “This is the place,” he said, and he began to build his house.

He dug down deep into the earth and he built his house right there on that rock.

When he had finished it, a terrible storm came.

**The rain fell and the winds howled
outside the house.**

**Soon there was so much rain that the
waters began to rise.**

**The rain beat against the house, but
inside the wise man was safe and dry.**

**Do you know why? Because he built his
house on a strong rock.**

**Now, there was another man who wanted
to build a house.**

**This man wasn't as wise as the first man.
In fact, he was rather foolish.**

**You see, he didn't try to do things the
right way.**

He just did whatever he wanted.

When he saw a pretty piece of ground...he said to himself “Wow, this is perfect...I will build my house right here...and he did!

But there was one problem. The ground was nothing more than sand.

When the man looked at the sand he thought, “This will be good enough. I’d like to live here,” and here he built his house.

Guess what happened next?

That’s right...a storm came.

Oh, it was a terrible storm!

The wind blew and the rain fell. The stream began to flood and beat against the house.

**The water washed the sand away, and
right away C-R-A-S-H!**

The house fell down!

**The foolish man had built his house on
the sand. When the storms came, it
washed all the sand away and there was
nothing left to hold up the house.**

**Jesus said, “If you hear My words but
DON’T OBEY them, then you are like
this foolish man.”**

**Where was the wise man when the storm
came?**

Safe inside his house.

Where was the foolish man?

Left out in the storm with no home.

**Which would you rather be-the wise man
or the foolish man?**

How can you be wise? Jesus said to listen to His words and obey, and you'll be wise, too.

The Bible tells us in Matthew 7:24-27 that anyone who hears the words of God and puts them into practice (obeys) them, is like the 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 the foundation was made of rock.

Why is it important to do what the Bible tells us to do?

Because the Bible is God's Word, and in the Bible, God tells us how we should act at all times.

**God's words lift us up when we are sad,
or hurt, or discouraged.**

**God's Word tells us how to handle
different situations when they arise.**

**And the Bible...Gods Words...tells us
that God is ALWAYS with us.**

**Whenever the storms arise, God is
ALWAYS there to help us through them.**

**He is ALWAYS there to HOLD US UP.
HE IS OUR ROCK.**

**That's right, God is our rock, He is our
foundation.**

**What kind of storms in our lives can God
help us stand up to? Sickness, death,
money problems, problems with friends
and family.**

Jesus also said “but anyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on the sand.

**The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and what happened to that house?
It Crashed!**

So if we do not read God’s Word, and we do not know God, who can we count on when the storms come along?

No one, we must go through the storms alone.

Can anyone give any examples of how some people may be building their lives on a foundation of sand?

Which would you rather do, build a life with Jesus as your foundation, one that

**will stand up to anything that comes
along, or would you rather build your life
with sand as your foundation; a
foundation that will wash away when the
troubles in life come along?**

**I would rather choose Jesus. How about
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The Wise and Foolish Man

- 1. In our story today, there was one wise man and one man who was what? Foolish**
- 2. When Jesus told this story, He said “If you hear my words and obey them you will be what? Wise**
- 3. In our story today, the two men built something, what did they build? A House**
- 4. Where did the wise man build his house? On the rocks**
- 5. Where did the foolish man build his house? On the sand**
- 6. When the storm began and the floods came up, what happened to the wise man’s house? It stood firm**
- 7. When the storm began and the floods came up, what happened to the foolish man’s house? It went crash**
- 8. Where was the wise man when the storm came? Safely inside his home**
- 9. Where was the foolish man when the storm came? Left out in the storm with no home.**
- 10. When we listen to God, and we obey his words, do you think we are wise or foolish? Wise**
- 11. Do you think that God protects us through the bad times? Yes**
- 12. The wise man listened to God, and he lived his life the way that God wanted him to do. So when the wise man faced troubles, did God protect him and help him through the floods? Yes**
- 13. Does God want us to listen to Him and put our trust in Him? Yes**

- 14. When we live our lives to please God are we being wise or foolish? Wise**
- 15. When we live our lives to please ourselves are we being wise or foolish? Foolish**
- 16. Should we ALWAYS live the way God tells us to live? Yes**
- 17. Is God our Rock when we are in trouble? YES, God Will always hold us up through bad times.**

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The Wise Man Built His House Upon The Rock

The Wise and Foolish Man Song.....

The Wise man build his house upon the rock, house upon the rocks, house upon the rocks.

The wise man built his house upon the rocks and the rains came tumbling down.

Well the rains came down and the floods came up, the rains came down and the floods came up, the rains came down and the floods came up and the house on the rocks stood firm

The foolish man build his house upon the sand, house upon the sand, house upon the sand.

The foolish man built his house upon the sand and the rains came tumbling down.

Well the rains came down and the floods came up, the rains came down and the floods came up, the rains came down and the floods came up and the house on the sand went SPLAT!

“The Lord is my rock
and my fortress and
my deliverer.”
2 Samuel 22:2

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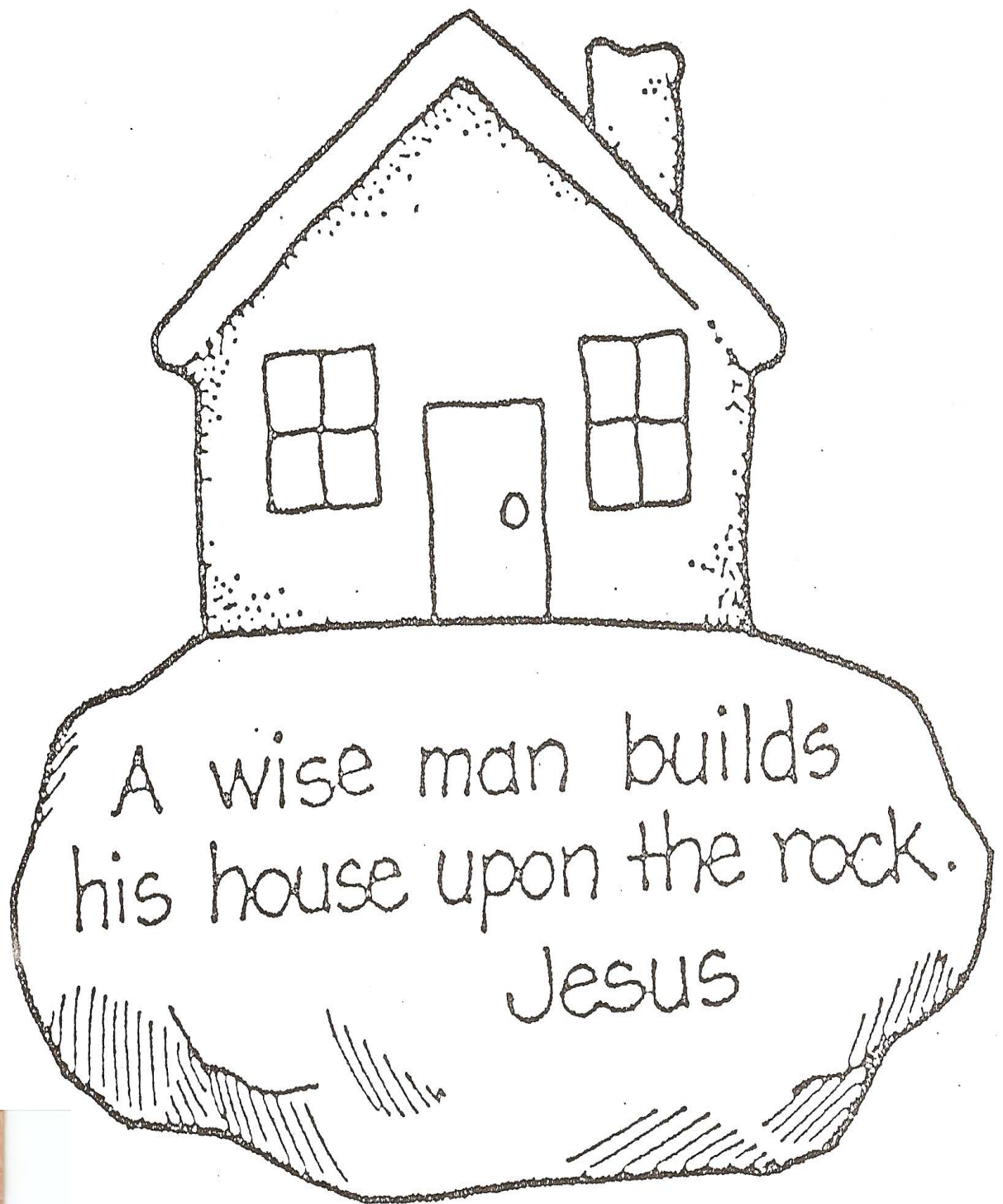
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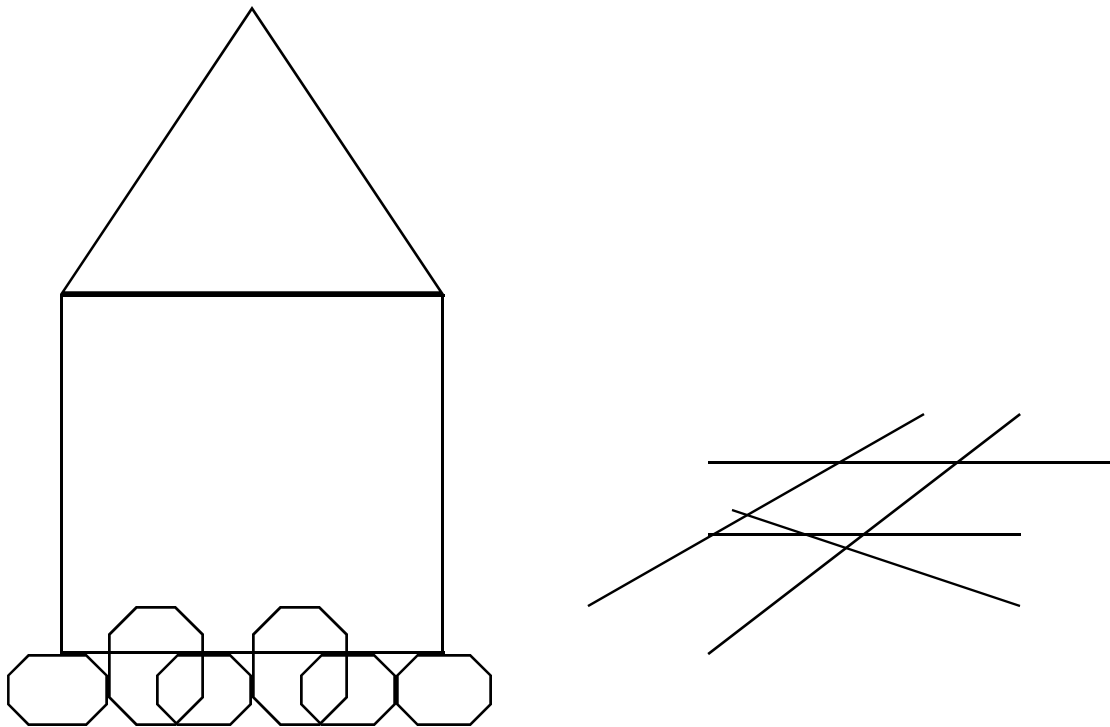
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...be ye kind one to another...
Ephesians 4:32



The Wise and Foolish Man Craft



You will need a sheet of construction paper divided in half. On one side, have the children glue down various sizes of rock (cut from brown construction paper). On the other side, have them squirt glue at the bottom and sprinkle sand in the glue.

On the rock side, build a house from craft sticks. On the sand side, glue the sticks down at various odd angles that would represent a house that had fallen.

