

SERIES: Guest speaker Rick Schweizer, Pastor of Care and Visitation

MESSAGE TITLE: Building on the Rock of Jesus Christ

MESSAGE OVERVIEW: A structure is only as sound as its foundation. So pursuing anything before God, even good and beneficial things like family or education, will eventually lead us away from Him. To stand the storms of life, our foundations must be laid on the rock. Our guest speaker shows us the importance of building our lives on Jesus—and a realistic look at living it every day.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: Matthew 7:24-27, Luke 6:46-49, Exodus 33:21, Deuteronomy 32:18, Isaiah 17:10, 2 Samuel 22:2, Psalm 18:2 & 31, Psalm 40, Hebrews 12:26-29

BREAKING IT DOWN:

1. Read Matthew 7:24-27. Does building on the rock mean our lives look perfect? Does it mean we never sin or struggle with faith?
2. Can we “build on the sand” unintentionally? How?
3. Consider Moses. He was called by God to be used in unimaginable ways, and was often in difficult situations as the leader of a nation. How did he have the wisdom and strength necessary to lead well? What did he do often?
4. Read Deuteronomy 32:18. With enough time or use, we slip from wonder and gratitude into complacency or entitlement. Is there anything you take for granted? How can we maintain a grateful spirit?
5. David refers to God as a rock over 20 times. Imagine *everything* at the disposal of a king, yet he still acknowledged God above all. Are we allowing God to be the rock of our lives? If not, who or what is?

WAYS TO LIVE THE MESSAGE THIS WEEK:

1. Prayer! Don't underestimate its power. Whether our personal prayer life, prayer in a group setting, or talking with God throughout the day, prayer is key to staying founded on God. Bring stresses, questions, praise—bring it all to Him.
2. Accountability - God emphasizes relationship throughout the Bible; we aren't supposed to journey alone. Keep company that will encourage you, as well as have those hard conversations too.
3. Read the Bible - When we've got God's Words in our heads and hearts, it's harder to be drawn away. Get into the Bible every day, even if it is only one verse!

