

Are My Decisions Based on God's Word?

Matthew 7:24-27

Introduction

Matthew 7:24-27 ²⁴ “Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: ²⁵ and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.

26 “But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: **27** and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall.”

I. *Faulty* foundations you may be tempted to build your life on:

- *Popular culture*

- *Popular culture*

- *Tradition*

- *Reason*

Proverbs 16:25 There is a way *that seems* right to a man, But its end *is* the way of death.

- *Popular culture*

- *Tradition*

- *Reason*

- *Emotions*

We need the Truth of God's Word in order to properly build our lives!

Matthew 7:24-27 “Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock:

If it doesn't work to build your life on popular culture, tradition, reason, or your emotions, what should you build your life on?

God's Word - His Truth - It Never Changes

Popular culture changes, traditions grow stale, reason can be faulty, & emotions lie.

Yet God's Word—His truth—never changes.

I. Faulty foundations you may be tempted to build your life on:

II. Good Decisions Always Agree with God's Word

Psalm 119:105 Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path.

I. **Faulty** foundations you may be tempted to build your life on:

II. Good Decisions Always **Agree** with God's Word

III. 4 Questions to Consider When Making **Godly** Decisions

III. 4 Questions to Consider When Making Godly Decisions

1. Will the action be helpful?

1 Corinthians 6:12 All things are lawful for me, but all things are not helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any.

That verse gives us two tests to guide our decisions:

- **Will it make me a better person?**
- **Does it tend to control me, or do I control it?**

Exodus 20:3 “Thou shalt have no other gods before me”

III. 4 Questions to Consider When Making Godly Decisions

1. Will the action be helpful?

2. Does it bother your conscience?

1 Peter 2:16 as free, yet not using liberty as a cloak for vice, but as bondservants of God.

Proverbs 28:13 He who covers his sins will not prosper, but whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy.

1. Will the action be helpful?
2. Does it bother your conscience?
3. Will your action hurt someone?

1 Corinthians 8:8 But food does not commend us to God; for neither if we eat are we the better, nor if we do not eat are we the worse.

1. Will the action be helpful?
2. Does it bother your conscience?
3. Will your action hurt someone?
4. Is it a loving action?

Galatians 5:13 For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

Our freedom should never lead to selfishness. Love should be the regulator of our liberty when we are unclear about what to do next.

There are 2 extremes: Legalism says “I will do whatever’s demanded of me.”
License says “I’ll do as I please.”

Liberty says “I will do the loving thing in every situation when it’s not clear from scripture what to do.”

That’s Real Freedom!

