

## Be a Wise Builder

Luke 6:37-49

Key Verse: 6:47-48

by Dr. Helen Rarick

"I will show you what he is like who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice. He 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."

1. Read verses 37. What does it mean to judge someone? Why do people judge and condemn others? What is the down-side of judging others? condemning others? What is the up-side of not judging or condemning? Why must we forgive?

2. Read verse 38. What are the positive results of giving? Why should we give generously? What can we learn from these two verses (37-38) about Christ-like generosity? Think about the generosity of Jesus (Mk 10:45; Jn 3:17; Jn 8:11)

3. Read verse 39-40. Why can't a blind man lead a blind man? Why did Jesus state this obvious fact? Why do disciples need training? Read verse 40. What is the educational goal of a disciple or student?

4. Read verses 41-42. What does it mean to have a plank in one's eye? Why is it difficult to remove a speck from another's eye? How can one take the plank out of his own eye? How can this parable be applied to us? How are these three parables connected? (39-41)

5. Read verses 43-45. How can we recognize whether a tree is good or bad? How can we know what kind of tree it is? How can we know what is in the heart of a person? What do the words we say reveal about our hearts? How can we take care of our inner lives?

6. Read verses 46-48. If we call Jesus, "Lord," what must be our attitude toward his word? How does the wise builder build his house? What can we learn from him? How can we dig deep and lay a solid rock foundation in our lives?

7. Read verse 49. What is one like who hears Jesus' words but does not put them into practice? What does this mean? What does the flood and torrent represent?