

# HEARING AND DOING

Adapted from a Sunday School Lesson

The Lord wanted to teach people to listen carefully to Him and to do what He said, so He told them this story:

*“Whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: 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. Now 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: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall” (Matthew 7:24-27).*

This teaches us how important it is to *do* what the Lord teaches, as well as to listen to Him. A rock is one big solid stone. It is hard and cannot be moved. But sand is tiny bits of stone, and it moves very easily. To build a house on a rock is to build on what is solid. Then the house will not be moved or ruined by rains, floods or high winds. But to build a house on the sand is to build on what is easily moved by rain, floods and winds. And when they come the house quickly falls and is swept away.

When we listen to the Lord, or when we read His Word, the Lord builds a house in our minds for us to live in. When, at the same time, we *do* what the Lord teaches us, He builds our house on the truth itself. This is what the rock means in the Lord’s story. Then the house is strong and nothing can ruin it; it won’t fall and be swept away. But if we hear the Lord’s words, but *do not do* them, the house that is built in our minds has no sure foundation.

Everything that is really true comes from the Lord and is the rock on which the house in our mind should be built. But when we do not obey the Lord, there is no love to hold the truths together. Then they become like sand. We do not want to ask the Lord to build the house of our mind on sand, because sand has no strength and is easily moved by winds and rains and floods.

So when we love *to listen* to the Lord, and when we love *to do* what He says, the house in our minds will be built by the Lord on a strong and steady rock.