



**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Series:** Meet the Amazing Jesus  
Winter Year 3, Lesson 38

# Build Your House on the Rock

**Take Home Point:** \*Build your life on what God wants.

\*Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson.

**Bible Event:** Luke 6:46-49. Jesus' parable of a house built on a rock

**Key Verse:** 1 John 2:17, "...the world and its evil desires are passing away. But the person who does what God wants lives forever."

**We will help kids know:**

- The Bible event found in Luke 6:46-49: Jesus telling the story of the wise man who built his house on the rock.
- We are to not only hear what God says but we are also to do what he says.
- The most important thing we can do in God's will is to believe in his Son Jesus, as our Savior.




**We will help kids feel:**

- Amazed at how one who does God's will lasts forever.
- Sorry for times when they were hating, taking, complaining, or hurting because they built their houses on the weak foundation.
- Comforted in God's forgiveness and our opportunity to build our house on Jesus, the rock.

**We will help kids do:**

- Identify examples from their life experiences of how people so want things of this world that they become hating, taking, complaining, or hurting.
- Empowered by Jesus and his forgiveness to do those things which last forever – to be loving, giving, thankful, and helpful.

# THIS LESSON'S ROADMAP

DESTINATION	PAGE #	DISCOVERIES ON YOUR JOURNEY	SUPPLIES NEEDED
<b>Small Group Warm-Up</b> 	3	Kids draw a picture of their favorite objects on a house made of sand.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• white poster board or a section of newsprint</li> <li>• a small container or bowl of petroleum jelly</li> <li>• a bowl of colored sand</li> <li>• a spoon</li> <li>• a box of tissues</li> </ul>
<b>Large Group</b> 	4  9  10  12	<p><b>Overview</b></p> <p><b>Video:</b> <i>The Miracle Maker</i>, distributed by Family Home Entertainment, 1999—order from <a href="http://www.BooksOfTheBible.com">www.BooksOfTheBible.com</a> or <a href="http://www.RoadtoGlory.com">www.RoadtoGlory.com</a></p> <p><b>Object Lesson:</b> “Parable of the House Built on the Rock”—The presenter uses an illusion trick with a piece of paper, one that cannot be torn, to teach that some things of this world pass away while other things last forever.</p> <p><b>Gordy’s Review Questions:</b> Gordy helps kids review the main points in the Bible event.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• set design and props for the series</li> <li>• Gordy</li> <li>• the animated video <i>The Miracle Maker</i> by Family Home Entertainment, Inc.—cue the video to start at the parable of the house on the rock</li> <li>• sheets of paper from the “Wonder Pad”—order from <a href="http://www.gospelmagic.com">www.gospelmagic.com</a></li> </ul>
<b>Small Group Application</b> 	4	Using trick and regular paper, kids will discuss the evil desires of the world that pass away and contrast them with the things of God that will last forever.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sand painting made earlier</li> <li>• tissue</li> <li>• paper from a Dock Haley gospel illusion trick called “Wonder Pad”</li> <li>• pens or pencils</li> </ul>

# Small Group Warm-Up: 15 minutes



**Purpose:** *Get pointed in the right direction!* Build relationships and help guests feel at ease. Do the learning readiness activity that will point your group in the right direction for the lesson.

## SAND PAINTING

*Supplies: poster board, cotton swabs, petroleum jelly, a spoon and colored sand*

Draw a picture of a house on poster board with a cotton swab that has been dipped in petroleum jelly. (Do not worry about being a great artist. Make it simple.) Then, using a spoon lightly spread some sand over the petroleum jelly. Pour excess sand off the poster board back into the bowl. To your group's delight, they will see a sand painting of a house.

As you are working, begin a conversation with the children.

**Imagine that we are building a house you will live in for a long, long time. What are some of your favorite things to take with you to live in this house for a long, long time?**

**When you think of some of the favorite things you would like to have with you, dip a cotton swab into the petroleum jelly and draw that object on the poster board. You can draw it inside or outside of the house.**

Hopefully, the children will think of games, toys, or objects that they typically like to have around them. Sprinkle some sand on the petroleum jelly to make the pictures visible. Have kids guess what the pictures represent. As you proceed, let the children discuss their favorite toys or objects. Use this time to find out more about the children's lives, their likes, and their dislikes.

Challenge the kids with the following question.

**How long do you think your favorite thing will last? Will it last one year? Five years? Twenty years? How about one hundred years? A thousand years?**

**Today we will talk about how some things pass away and do not last long. We are also going to learn about how other things last a very, very long time.**

**There is nothing wrong with our favorite toys and gifts that God gives us. These can be wonderful things. But it can be very dangerous if these things become so important to us and we want them so much that we do not do what God wants.**

If we behave in ways God doesn't want just so we can keep our favorite things, it is just like building a house on sand. Houses built on sand do not last a long time. They can fall apart.

There are certain things, though, that we can put in our houses that will last forever. What do you think those things might be?

Today we will learn: *\*Build your life on what God wants.*

## Large Group Overview: 20-30 minutes



**Purpose:** *Help kids observe what the Bible says. Present the Bible event in creative fashion. Help kids begin to interpret what it means.*

**Video:** “The Miracle Maker,” by Family Home Entertainment, Inc., 1999—cue the video to the parable of the wise man building his house on the rock.

**Object Lesson:** “Parable of the House Built on the Rock”—The presenter uses an illusion trick with a piece of paper, one that cannot be torn to teach that some things of this world pass away while other things last forever.

**Gordy's Review Questions:** Gordy helps kids review the main points in the Bible event.

## Small Group Application: 20-25 minutes



**Purpose:** *Help kids map out the meaning of the Bible event in their lives. Use the questions to stimulate discussion but don't feel tied to them. Allow the Holy Spirit to guide you. Include personal examples from your own faith journey. The example of Christ at work in your life will leave lasting impressions of how Christ can work in the children's lives.*

*Use your Bibles! Children need to learn how to look up references and follow along when scripture is read aloud. Allow for quality time of prayer at the close of the lesson.*

### Observation Questions: What happened?

*Quickly review points of the Bible event, as most of your time should be spent on the application activity.*

Have kids refer to Luke 6:46-49 in their Bibles.

**According to this parable, what type of house can withstand a flood?**  
(Luke 6:48. One built on a solid foundation like a rock.)

**What are the three things a person who builds his house on the rock, or solid foundation, does?** *(Luke 6:47. He comes to Jesus, hears what Jesus says, and does it.)*

**What is a person like who hears what Jesus says but doesn't obey it?** *(Luke 6:49. He is like a person who built a house on the ground, or sand, without any foundation. When the floodwaters come, that house quickly collapses and is destroyed.)*

### **Interpretation Questions: What does this mean?**

**What do you think the flood in Jesus' parable represents?** *(Disaster in a person's life, something that can knock a person off his feet.)*

**What do you think the rock represents?** *(Jesus.)*

**How would a person who comes to Jesus, hears what he says, and does it respond?** *(He would pray to God for help, share his need with other believers who might also help, trust in Jesus to take care of the situation.)*

**Do you think people who heard this parable told by Jesus in his time had an easy or hard time following Jesus' teaching? Explain why you answered the way you did.**

### **Application Questions: What does this mean to me?**

#### Application Activity:

*Supplies needed: sand art project from Warm-Up, tissue paper, pencils or pens, paper from the gospel illusion trick called "Wonder Pad" (These pads are approximately 3 ½ x 6 ½ inches in size and include forty tearable sheets and forty non-tearable sheets. By looking closely at the pages, you will see that there is a small dash mark at the left edge of every other page. The dash indicates pages that can be torn.)*

Display the sand art project from Warm-Up. Talk about some of the things that the children drew. Ask again:

**How long do you think your favorite toys will last? How long do you think they will make you happy?**

**Someday, everything in this world will be gone. Only those people who know Jesus as their Savior will be able to live forever with God. How can wanting to have certain things get in the way of us getting to know God better?**

**How much time do you spend watching TV, playing video games or chatting online with your friends? How much time do you spend in God's word?**

Encourage the kids to discuss how things of the world might seem to be so attractive that we spend all our focus and time getting more of them.

**When things of this world become so attractive that we think we need more and more, it can become hard for us to see what we really need – to trust in Jesus as our Savior and to live for him.**

As the children discuss this, take a tissue and wipe some of the sand objects off the poster board. Much of the petroleum jelly will have absorbed into the paper so the sand will easily come off. Point out how quickly the children's favorite things disappear.

Read 1 John 2:17:

***“...the world and its evil desires are passing away. But the person who does what God wants lives forever.”***

*A final discussion happens as the children are involved in an object lesson similar to the one they have just seen in large group.*

From the “Wonder Pad” tear out two pages per child, one tearable and one non-tearable. Hand the pages to each child with the marked page on top.

With **pencil or pen** (as markers will smear), have kids draw a small house in the middle of each page. (Four words will be added to the four corners of each page.)

Have the children write “hate” in the upper left corner of the first page. Ask the kids if they can think of an example of someone hating a person because he did not like the person or because he felt that person had something that he wanted.

After the children give examples, ask them what the opposite of hate is. Have them write “love” in the upper left corner of the second page.

**If you know Jesus as your Savior, what might be something that you do to show love to others?**

Return to the first page and ask the children to write “take” in the upper right corner.

**Can you think of an example of someone who takes something that is not his because he wants it so badly? This is called stealing.**

On the second page write the opposite of take – “give” – in the upper right corner.

**Who can share an example of how you once gave something to someone. This is an example of what Jesus would want us to do. He wants us to share with others, especially those who do not have as much as we do.**

Go back to the first page and write in the lower left corner the word “complain.”

**How many of you have complained about stuff that you did not have? Give examples of that. Does God want us to do that? What is the opposite of complaining?**

Write “thanks” in the lower left corner of the second page. Give examples of thanking God for what we have.

Return to the first page and write “hurt” in the lower right corner.

**How many of us have ever hurt someone else because we were angry with him or her? We might have punched or pushed someone, or we might have used mean words with this person. Give examples of that. What is the opposite of hurting?**

Write “help” in the lower right corner of the second page.

**Can you give examples of helping others?**

Have kids pick up the first page while you read the first part of 1 John 2:17. As you read the section about the world and its evil desires passing away, have the children tear the first page into small pieces. Lay the torn pieces of paper on the poster board used for sand painting. Then as you read the last part of the verse that talks about what God wants, have the children attempt to tear the second page. This page will not tear.

Have the children draw a cross in the middle of the house on the non-tearable page. Say:

**Today we learned: *\*Build your life on what God wants.* The cross reminds us when Jesus lives at the center of our lives, we will live with him forever.**

Closing Prayer:

Pray that all would build their foundation on the rock, Jesus. Pray that all would come to Jesus, listen to what he says and do what he says. As you pray, be sensitive to children who need assurance that they will live forever through trust in Jesus as their Savior. If children are unsure about this, reaffirm them with the following prayer.

**Lord Jesus, thank you for dying on the cross to forgive my sins. I need your forgiveness because sometimes I do not do what you want. I trust you as my Savior. You paid the price for all the punishment of my sin. Be with me and help me live for you. Thank you that I will live with you forever. Amen.**

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# Large Group Presentation

**Take Home Point:** *\*Build your life on what God wants.*

*Set design and props needed for this series will include a large sign that reads “Meet the Amazing Jesus.” In addition to this sign, hang smaller signs in the front of the room with the word “Amazing” printed on each one.*

*Prompt kids to say, “Simply amaaaazing,” when the presenter points up and says, “And THAT is...,” A sweeping arm gesture by the large group presenter as the kids say “simply amaaaa-a-azing” will add effect and emphasis. Use this technique as an attention grabber when presenting the main points.*

There are three sections to today’s large group presentation. The first section is a video presentation of the Bible event. The second section is a retelling of the event using an amazing object lesson. In the third section, Gordy, the puppet, helps kids review.

*Adapt this lesson to use one or all of the following parts depending on availability of videos and/or illusion tricks.*

## PART ONE

Begin with the animated video, “*The Miracle Maker*,” by Family Home Entertainment, Inc. Show the story of the wise man building his house upon the rock.

Next, call Gordy out and ask that he would come back after the lesson has been taught. Gordy will help with the review questions. Ad-libbing these conversations is most effective, as long as it is kept brief.

## PART TWO

### Object Lesson

### Parable of the House Built on the Rock

Illustrations and Script for the Presenter

Retell the story with the object lesson as follows.

*Supplies:*

- “Wonder Pad” – order from: <http://www.gospelmagic.com> (These pads include forty tearable sheets and forty non-tearable sheets. By looking closely at the



*pages, you will see that there is a small dash mark at the left edge of every other page. The dash indicates pages that can be torn.)*

- *Two children are brought forward and given the two sheets of paper from the gospel illusion trick. It is especially effective if the smaller of the two children is given the piece of paper marked, "The world passes away."*

In advance, mark a tearable sheet with "The world passes away" and a non-tearable sheet with "Whoever does the will of the God remains forever."

Have two children come up and give each a sheet of paper from the trick.

**Presenter:** Jesus told a story to teach us on what we should build our lives. He said that some things we build our lives on last forever, while other things that we build on will not last. Let's look at what the Bible says about this.

**In Luke 6:47-49 Jesus says that anyone who comes to him, hears what he says and obeys it is like a person who built his house on a rock. *"When a flood came, the floodwaters pushed against that house. But the house couldn't be washed away because it had a good foundation."***

**What does this good foundation consist of? A good foundation is built when one comes to Jesus, hears what he says and obeys him. This person is wise.**

**There is another way to build a house. This unwise person hears what Jesus says but does not obey. This person is like someone who builds his house on ground without a solid foundation. In other words, it is like building his house on sand. The floodwaters will come and push against his house and the house will collapse.**

Have a child hold up the paper marked, "The world passes away."

**Presenter:** This piece of paper reminds us of the house built on the sand. First John 2:17 says *"...the world and its evil desires are passing away. But the person who does what God wants lives forever."* Let's see how long this paper lasts.

Ask the child holding up the paper to answer the following question.

**Presenter:** Can you give me examples of a person's actions that do not obey what Jesus says? (*Lie, cheat, be mean, be selfish, not trust in Jesus as Savior.*)

**For each thing that you say, tear a piece from your paper. Why do people act like this or for what purpose do people do these things?**

*(They try to feel good about themselves by becoming more powerful or maybe think things will make them happy. Their focus is on whatever makes them happy.)*

**Power, fame and riches are things in this world that the Bible says will pass away.**

Refer to the other volunteer and say:

**What do you think about the other type of person? This is the type of person who says, “I’m not going to live just to make myself happy by getting more stuff in the world. Instead, I’m going to do the will of God. I’m going to do what he wants.”**

Ask the other child to hold up the paper that reads, “Whoever does the will of God...”

Then ask:

**Presenter:** **Give me examples of actions that follow the will of God.** *(Love people, love God, worship, pray, obey the will of God and believe in Jesus as our Savior.)*

**Now I want you to tear your sheet of paper in half.**

Allow the child time to struggle, trying to tear the paper.

**Presenter:** **Doesn’t your paper tear?**

Another child might be given the opportunity to try to tear the paper. Point to an “amazing” sign and prompt kids to say, “Simply amaaaazing.”

**Presenter:** **This paper cannot be torn in half. It is an illusion that demonstrates how some things last forever. Those who last forever come to Jesus, hear what he says and do what he says. If you are like this, the things that you do in Jesus’ name will last forever. When you help people because of Jesus’ love for you, others can learn to know and follow Jesus, also.**

## PART THREE

### Gordy's Review Questions

Jesus' parable of a house built on a rock

*The following questions can be used for review of today's Bible event. This will be a contest between Gordy and the kids. Gordy assigns a scoring value to each question before that question is read. That number is in parentheses at the beginning of the question. What makes it fun is that Gordy finally gets one correct at the end and that number helps him make a dramatic comeback. The kids typically win, but it might be interesting if, from time to time, Gordy wins. Adjust to your preference. One thing is important and will be vital to this script: move through your material quickly. By this time, the kids' attention spans are short. You may even want to delete some of the questions if it is feeling a bit long.*

*After each question, the first parenthetical remark is Gordy's response. The second parenthetical remark is the correct answer from a child.*

*Kids might even bring their Bibles to large group to search for answers as they listen to the following questions.*

1. (This is easy. So only..... 600 points!) **Jesus talks about a wise person who builds a house. On what did this person build his house?**  
(Vaseline!)  
**(A rock.)**
2. (65 points) **This wise builder represents someone who did three things. What are those three things?**  
(Someone who came to Jesus, heard what he said, and memorized what he said.)  
**(Someone who came to Jesus, heard what he said, and did what he said.)**
3. (7 points) **The foolish builder built his house without a good foundation. He is like a person who does what?**  
(Goofed off in Kingdom Quest.)  
**(Heard what Jesus said but did not do it.)**
4. (28 points) **Today's Bible verse says this world passes away. What lasts forever?**  
(Gum on the bottom of your desk!)  
**(Whoever does the will of God.)**

5. (100 points) **What is the most important thing we can do to follow the will of God?**

(Try not to make smart remarks during Kingdom Quest.)

***(Trust in Jesus as our Savior and do what he says.)***

**Mr. King:**        **Gordy, I don't think you're trying very hard to get these answers right.**

Gordy:            Well, sometimes it's more important to me to say what's funny rather than to say what's right.

**Mr. King:**        **I like laughing with you too, Gordy. But let's not laugh about what is really important. Do you know what that is?**

Gordy:            I think so, Mr. King. What's most important is hearing what God says and doing it, just like what we learned today.

**Mr. King:**        **Wow, Gordy, you were listening.**

Gordy:            And I also know that God has told us to trust Jesus as our Savior. Then our sin is forgiven and we can have power to always try to do what God wants.

**Mr. King:**        **If you do that, then you *\*build your house on what God wants.***

Gordy:            Then I'm ready to start building.

**Mr. King:**        **Great, Gordy. Would you please say a closing prayer?**

Gordy:            Okay. Dear God, thank you for sending Jesus and telling us how to build our houses to last forever. We want to hear what you say and then do it. When we goof up, thanks for Jesus and the power of your forgiveness. I think it's great that Jesus died on the cross to pay the price for our sin so that we can always have a second chance to hear what you say and then do it. In Jesus' name. Amen.