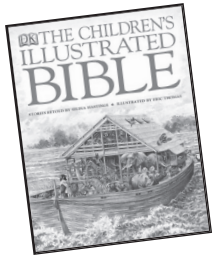


# Ordinary Time, Proper 4



The Children's Illustrated Bible  
page 215

## Building on a Rock

Share the metaphor of the rock that Jesus gave from Matthew 7:24-29. Also, read *The Children's Illustrated Bible*, last paragraph on page 215. Jesus said if we hear his words and don't obey them, it's like building a house on the sand. If we hear Jesus' words and do them, it's like building a house on a rock. When bad things happen, everything won't fall apart.

Are you a rock or a sand builder? A sand builder pretends to listen to Jesus' words, but doesn't try to change. A rock builder hears the words and changes because of them.

Experiment with building on rock and sand. First, give the kids small plastic interlocking blocks to build two houses. Using plastic trays, fill one halfway with sand, and in the other lay a large, flat rock. Put one house on the rock and the other on the sand. First, turn a fan on both houses, and see how their foundations are affected (the sand should move slightly). Second, pour a cup of water over the houses. The sand should wash away or holes will form in the sand. Discuss:

1. Which is a better place to build your house, on sand or on a rock?
2. What happened when rains came and winds blew on both houses?
3. What does Jesus mean about building your house on a rock? What is the rock?

Jesus said, "Everyone who hears my words and obeys them is like a person who built their house on rock. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall. It was built on rock. But if you hear my words and don't do them, you will be like the foolish person who built a house on sand. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house. And the house fell down—and great was its fall!"  
—Matthew 7:24–29 adapted

## Be Solid!

Have one kid stand alone in front of the group. Gently push on their shoulder, enough to make them unsteady. Now add two or three more kids with their backs together, creating a column. Have them lean against each others' backs to create more strength. Now push again on the first kid with the same force as the first time. Do they move?

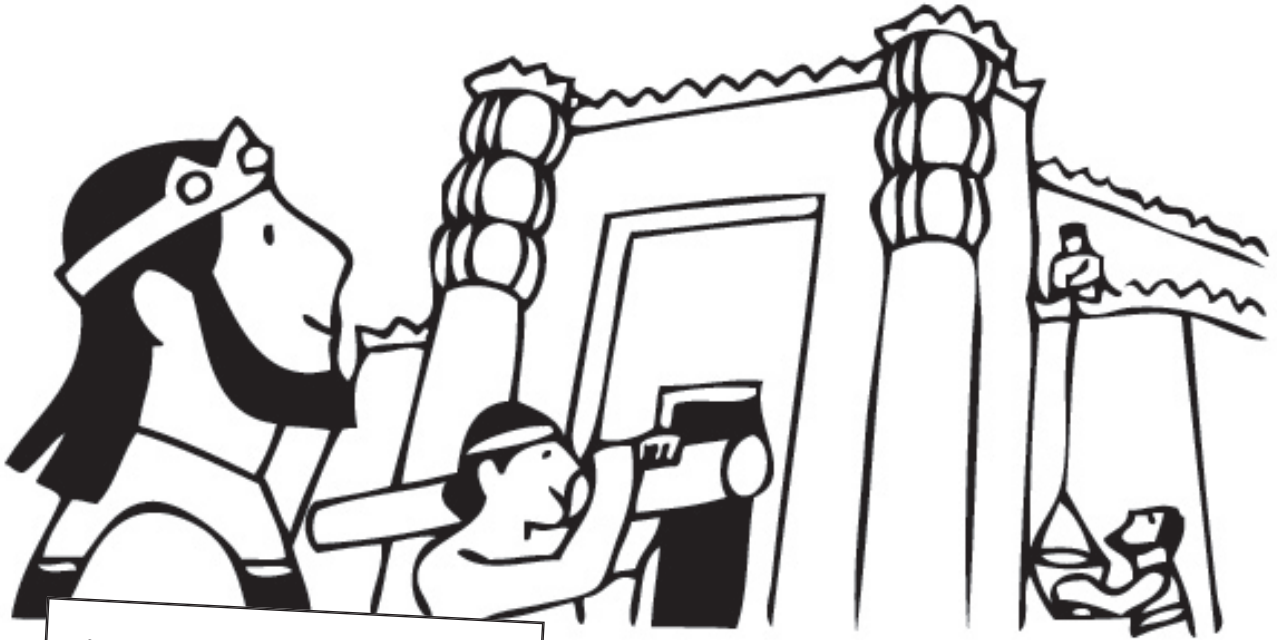
When we support each other with our kind words and actions, we are all stronger. What can we do when someone is going through a storm, a difficult time in their life? (Stand with them; give them our support.)

## Rock Help

Increasingly, hurricanes, tornadoes, and tsunamis are causing devastation and disaster for many people around the world. The Community of Christ sends oblation offerings to victims in these situations. *Oblation* is an offering that may also help people with other special needs. You may give money to oblation in your offering envelope. Invite kids to bring their money next week, if they wish, to give to the Oblation Fund. How are the victims that have received funds doing now? Stories and letters from them tell us that they are rebuilding because of the help they've received.



MISSION TITHES		4349
Look to the needs of your own congregations, but also look beyond your walls to the far-flung places where the church must go... share equally in the outreaching ministries of the church. —Doctrine and Covenants 162:7d		
<b>LOCAL</b>		<b>WORLD</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> CONGREGATION MINISTRIES		<input type="checkbox"/> WORLD MINISTRIES (Field Missions, New Congregations, Missionary Outreach)
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING		<input type="checkbox"/> OBLATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> WORLD HUNGER
<input type="checkbox"/> You may mark this box and place this empty envelope in the offering if you usually contribute in some other way or at some other time.		A



Jesus said, "Everyone who hears my words and obeys them is like a person who built their house on rock."

—Matthew 7:24 adapted

Do you listen to Jesus' words and follow them?  
Do you:

- pray?
- care about others?
- forgive others?
- try your best?
- give money to church?
- work on your talents?
- tell others about Jesus?

Then you are like a house on a rock!

**Draw a picture of your house on this rock.**



Learn this song together:

## Wise and Foolish Builders

The foolish builder built a house upon the sand.

The foolish builder built a house upon the sand.

The foolish builder built a house upon the sand.

And the rains came—a tumblin' down. (*Wiggle fingers as up-stretched hands are brought down.*)

The rains came down (*wiggle fingers down*) and the floods came up. (*palms, hands up*)

The rains came down and the floods came up. (*repeat motions*)

The rains came down and the floods came up. (*repeat motions*)

And the house on the sand went smack. (*Make smacking motion with hands.*)

The wise builder built a house upon the rock.

The wise builder built a house upon the rock.

The wise builder built a house upon the rock.

And the rains came—a tumblin' down.

*Repeat refrain.*

*Last line:* And the house on the rock stood firm. (*Flex arms with a strong motion.*)