

youthESource Drama

In Christ Alone We Stand Again

by Sarah R. Larson

Key Scripture: Philippians 1:12 - 26; 4:23

Discussion Questions:

What does it mean to have second chances?

Post-Lesson Group Discussion Questions:

1. Read Matthew 7:24 - 27.
2. Did the Foolish Builder in Scripture get a second chance? Discuss.
3. Read Philippians 1:12 - 26. What is the Apostle Paul's Rocky foundation?
4. Read the following text of the hymn "My Hope is Built on Nothing Less," written by Edward Mote and inspired by the parable of the Wise and Foolish Builders.

*My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness
No merit of my own I claim
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.
On Christ, the solid rock, I stand
All other ground is sinking sand
All other ground is sinking sand*

*When darkness veils His lovely face
I rest on His unchanging grace
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil
On Christ the solid rock, I stand
All other ground is sinking sand
All other ground is sinking sand*

*His oath, His covenant and blood
Support me in the raging flood
When every earthly prop gives way
He then is all my hope and stay
On Christ the solid rock I stand
All other ground is sinking sand
All other ground is sinking sand*

*When He shall come with trumpet sound
Oh, may I then in Him be found
Clothed in His righteousness alone
Redeemed to stand before His throne!
On Christ the solid rock I stand
All other ground is sinking sand
All other ground is sinking sand!*

Edward Mote was a Baptist minister in England when his congregation attempted to give him a chapel as a thank you gift for his services. Mote is quoted as saying, "I do not want the chapel, I only want the pulpit; and when I cease to preach Christ, then turn me out of it."

Final Thought: The Rock, Jesus Christ, promises through His Word and Sacraments that He, *alone*, is the way, the truth and the life. Believe, and you will be saved! Praise be to God!

Characters

WISE BUILDER

FOOLISH BUILDER

Lights up.

The WISE BUILDER and FOOLISH BUILDER work on their new houses. The FOOLISH BUILDER now builds on the other side of the WISE BUILDER, presumably on the Rock.

WISE BUILDER: How are you doing over there? Are you ok?

FOOLISH BUILDER (*a changed man, cheerful and light*): Yes, I'm fine! You were *not* kidding...this Rock is solid.

WISE BUILDER: I know. But I tell you...the alternative to building on this Rock is far, far worse.

FOOLISH BUILDER: I know.

WISE BUILDER: It's important to remember what happened to your beautiful house on the sand. It is then that you remember how much you have been changed.

FOOLISH BUILDER: Yes, I know. (*Pausing to rest, thoughtful*) You know...when I was digging for the foundation of my dream mansion on the beach, digging and digging in the sand was so easy...until that first foundation caved in. And then the digging and digging was easy again...for a reason. That sand just isn't strong enough to keep my house standing against the gale force winds.

WISE BUILDER: No, it isn't. It was a sad and devastating day when that beautiful house of yours fell down and washed away. But, do you believe me now when I say that it's worth *everything* to build your foundation here on the Rock...instead of on the beach?

FOOLISH BUILDER: Absolutely. Though...the *view* isn't all that wonderful anymore when it's coming at you in scary twenty-foot waves.

The WISE BUILDER nods, chuckling. The FOOLISH BUILDER takes a drink of water, satisfied.

FOOLISH BUILDER (*continued*): But, I'm gonna see the waves again.

WISE BUILDER (*sobered*): Yes.

FOOLISH BUILDER: I didn't believe that before, but I do now. And this time I want to be prepared.

WISE BUILDER: The Rock will always be the Rock...when we are ready... *(thoughtful)* ...and when we are not. I was not ready for my house to flood at all. I didn't expect that.

The FOOLISH BUILDER becomes thoughtful.

FOOLISH BUILDER: Was it worth it to you, then, to build your house on the Rock? Even though it was so damaged, and you have to replace almost everything anyway?

WISE BUILDER *(nodding, confident)*: Yes. Honestly, give me a barn. Give me a cave. Give me a mansion. I don't care. Whatever it is, the Rock will always be the most permanent foundation for all eternity. My house did *not* fall down.

FOOLISH BUILDER *(thoughtful)*: I was foolish to build my house on sand. But, you know what?

WISE BUILDER: What's that?

FOOLISH BUILDER: Because of *that*...I want to show others how to build their houses on the Rock, too. I want to show them how to build their lives on the Truth. Philippians chapter 1, verse 12 says, "I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel..."

WISE BUILDER: And your *new* house will be a testimony to what the Lord has done.

FOOLISH BUILDER *(thoughtful, shaking head)*: But, I was a foolish, *foolish* builder. Who will listen to me?

WISE BUILDER: They will. You are not a foolish builder anymore. You are free from that. You are a wise builder now because of what the Lord has done in you, and for you. And there are many more foolish builders out there who need your support and who need to hear the Truth about their worthless foundations, too. You are a part of our community, and we will call you a wise builder. "On Christ the solid Rock I stand. All other ground is sinking sand."

The FOOLISH BUILDER reaches out to shake the WISE BUILDER'S hand. The WISE BUILDER shakes his/her hand.

FOOLISH BUILDER *(continued)*: "All other ground is sinking sand."

Lights down.