

²⁴ "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. *Matthew 7:24-25 (NIV)* ²⁶ But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. ²⁷ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash." Matthew 7:26-27 (NIV)

When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at his teaching, ²⁹ because he taught as one who had authority, and not as their teachers of the law. *Matthew 7:28-29 (NIV)*

Introduction:

- The environment we are in is radically changing.
 - National changes
 - International changes
 - Career/Employment changes
 - Family changes
 - Morality changes
 - Ethical changes
 - Religious changes

Introduction:

- The environment we are in is radically changing.
- There is a feeling of *shifting sand*.
 - How am I to relate to those around me?
 - How do we fit in?
 - Should we be fitting in? Should we be standing out?
 - What am I to believe?
 - What am I to do with what I believe?
 - Does acceptance mean approval?

Introduction:

- The environment we are in is radically changing.
- There is a feeling of *shifting sand*.
- There is a clear need for a firm foundation.
 - What is that firm foundation?
 - How does this relate to others around me/around us?
 - How do I respond to those with different perspectives?
 - How can I/we be understood?
 - WHO is that firm foundation?

Introduction:

- The environment we are in is radically changing.
- There is a feeling of *shifting sand*.
- There is a clear need for a firm foundation.

In the midst of shifting sand, there is a firm foundation.

That's what we're going to look at in the next few weeks, addressing some of the most important questions facing us in our world today.

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