

Construction of a Christian
(L1 – Foundation)
Mt 7:24-27
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to show the first steps involved constructing a faithful Christian.

- Intro:
1. In any project there is prep work.
 - a. Gather supplies, preparing or creating a plan for the work, etc.
 2. Is becoming a Christian any different?

I. Preparing the foundation

A. Clearing the land

1. The work and the purpose
 - a. **Checking the soil type** - *settlements and related recommendations, slope stability, groundwater level, soil bearing capacity, excavation related hazards, soil strength, soil classification, and more. This data adequately defines the properties of soil and its behavior in the future.*
 - i. Are not the soils of men (hearts) discussed even by Christ? (**Mt 13:3-9**)
2. Without clearing the land and doing the necessary dirt work a proper a foundation cannot be built.

B. Foundations

- 1. The purpose of a foundation is to provide a solid, place for buildings.**
- 2. Foundation building requires the right tools.**
 - a. **Tools for preparing the foundation mold**
 - b. **Tools for pouring, leveling, and smoothing the foundation**
 - c. **And preparing the foundation for the building that will come next.**

II. Preparing the person

A. Recognizing the need for God

1. Just like clearing the land man must clear his heart of anything that hinders us from beginning a faithful life with God (**Mt 19:16-22**)
 - a. Some think they are ready when they truly are not prepared to do what is necessary.
2. Just like recognizing the need for a proper foundation, one must realize the need for God as their solid foundation (**Mt 7:24-27**)

B. Recognizing your need to follow God and not self

1. Man must acknowledge that following self is not the answer
 - a. **Jeremiah 10:23** – knowing you must put your trust in God

III. Lessons for Us Today

A. Man must take the proper steps

1. Not everyone can be a Christian.
2. Only the person prepared to make sacrifices is able to be a follower of Christ (**Mt 16:24-25**)

B. Being a Christian is a determined work

1. Man must put in determined effort to be a servant of God (**Lk 9:61-62**).

Application & Conclusion:

1. In order to be a Christian that will stand the test of time, we must be prepared.
 - a. Remember only one soil was fruitful (**Mt 13:23**).
2. Are you ready to prepare your heart for God?
3. Postponement only tells God you are not ready or willing. Is that really what you want to tell Him?
4. Full Invitation

Non-Christians must:

Hear – James 1:22, Romans 10:15,17

Believe – Jn 12:44, Jn 8:24, Mt 16:16

Repent – Luke 13:2-3

Confess – John 12:42, Romans 10:9

Be Baptized – 1 Pt 3:21, Acts 22:16, Col 2:11-12, Mk 16:16, Rom 6:3-4

Live faithfully – John 14:15, Rev 2:10

Christians must:

Repent & Pray: James 5:16, 1 John 1:9