

BIBLE STUDY DISCUSSION GUIDE

Hold Fast: in the Storms

Matthew 7:24-27

Week of February 2, 2025



1. **Opening Prayer.** Ask for wisdom and understanding as you study God's Word.
2. **Introduction** (5 minutes). Briefly summarize the sermon's key points:
 - a. The importance of a strong foundation in marriage.
 - b. The analogy of the wise and foolish builders from Matthew 7:24-27.
 - c. Foundational truths of marriage: God created marriage, men and women are different by design, and marriage is for life.
3. **Scripture Reading** (5 minutes). Read Matthew 7:24-27 (ESV) aloud.
4. **Discussion Questions** (40 minutes).
 - a. Discuss the analogy of the wise and foolish builders. What does it mean to build on the rock versus the sand?
 - b. How can we ensure our marriage is built on the rock, as Jesus described?
 - c. Discuss Genesis 2:24 and Mark 10:6-9. What do these passages say about God's design for marriage?
 - d. How does recognizing that God created and ordained marriage influence your perspective on its significance and purpose?
 - e. In what ways can viewing your spouse as a gift from God impact your relationship, especially during challenging times?

- f. Reflect on Philippians 2:4-5. How can we appreciate and embrace the differences between men and women in marriage?
- g. What does it mean to *hear and do* what Jesus says in the context of marriage, as emphasized in the sermon?
- h. Can you share an example of how applying biblical principles has strengthened your marriage or a relationship you know?
- i. How can Christians uphold biblical truths about marriage in a society with differing views?
- j. Reflect on a time when your marriage or a relationship faced a storm. How did your foundation help or hinder you during that time?

5. **Application** (10 minutes)

- a. Identify one practical step you can take this week to strengthen the foundation of your marriage or relationships.
- b. Commit to praying for wisdom and strength to apply these truths in life.

6. **Closing Prayer.** Ask God to help build your relationships on the solid foundation of His Word.

Additional Resources: Read "The Meaning of Marriage" by Timothy Keller for further insights into biblical marriage.

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