

## **Building a Life**

### **Matthew 7:24-29**

Warren and Pam Adams live in Gilchrist TX which is essentially in Galveston. They love living within steps of the ocean. The sand, the sun, the seashore make everyday a joy. They found one major problem with some of the highest priced real estate in all of Texas, the storms. In 2006 Hurricane Rita devastated their home and many others.

Show before picture(s)

The warrens decided to build a house that could endure the storm. Warren hired a contractor and carefully supervised the construction from planning to completion of a house that could endure the storm.

The night of September 11, 2009 hurricane Ike came ashore. Warren and Pam almost waited too late to leave - they were the last off the island.

The next morning the devastation was overwhelming. Virtually every home was totally destroyed. Only one home in the regions survived. It was the Warren House.  
Show the Warren house

The storm surge did incredible damage but the house stood because it was built for the storm.

You are a builder. You are building a life. You are building the life for the storm and not the sunshine. You will endure the greatest storms of life inside the life that you build.

God has prepared to help you build your life. God has planned to help you build your life. God has suffered so that He could help you build your life. Jesus came to walk with you through the process of building a life.

Now, you have already been building. Jesus will be your engineer, architect, inspector, and general contractor. Today He is your inspector and He walks around inside your life. He sees things in your life that do not meet code, that violate the law, that are safety hazards, that increase your risk, and that violate the standards of proper life building.

Today you are closer to the storm than you have ever been. Jesus knows the type of life that you have to build to survive the storm that is too come. He has stood on the destroyed homesite of far too many lives. He wants your life to make it through the storm.

### **1. You Need Faith**

Jesus said that you hear these sayings of mine and you do them.

You have to decide whom to vest your confidence in

### **\*Most people trust in self**

self is the most natural person to trust - we are closest to self - self is always with us; self seems to be devoted to what is best for me; self has a vested interest

the problem is that self is dead to God, full of sin, bent on rebellion toward God, and overly confident with grossly limited knowledge

-self knows so little - self

**Galatians 5:17: “For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish.**

**Galatians 5:19-21: “Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness,<sup>20</sup> idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies,<sup>21</sup> envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told *you* in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.”**

**Romans 7:23: “But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.”**

Warring = actively opposing - word means fight or battle - has th anti in front of it

there is a full scale battle taking place

flesh wants me in bondage - the flesh never satisfies only sells temporary pleasures

### **\*Many people trust in society**

**1 Corinthians 1:20–21: “Where *is* the wise? Where *is* the scribe? Where *is* the disputer of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? <sup>21</sup> For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through wisdom did not know God, it pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe.”**

**1 John 2:15-17: “Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. <sup>16</sup> For all that *is* in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. <sup>17</sup> And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.”**

And you *He made alive*, who were dead in trespasses and sins,<sup>2</sup> in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience,<sup>3</sup> among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.”

**\*Millions of people trust in their social club**

small group of people who influence them - they have become captive to the group

**Psalm 1:1-3: Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law he meditates day and night. He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season, whose leaf also shall not wither; and whatever he does shall prosper@**

-Trust in the Savior

## **2. You Need Obedience**

### **6 attributes of obedience**

#### **1) Obedience requires action**

more than hearing - you must build - take steps

are you going to settle for this life

man committed adultery on his wife - he cared about God and feared the Lord - He was broken - He came to me and we discussed - I told him that he need to confess it all - that is what brokenness does; grieve with her; take steps to reestablish trust - embrace the brokenness and the process

takes action

#### **2) Obedience is the result of faith**

stepping off of the pier

#### **3) Obedience costs you something**

it is inconvenient - build on rock instead of on the sand -

-church, service, the Great Commission, obeying the Lord is inconvenient

it is hard - who said obedience was easy - much easier to build upon sand than to build upon rock

costs you time, money, energy, faith, resources, frustration

#### **4) Obedience is observed by others**

do not hide your obedience - put it on a lamp stand for all the world to see  
causes you to stand out

others may perceive it as grandstanding - showing them up

### **5) Obedience only makes sense to others after the storm**

people will finally know why you did what you did, why you took so long to find the right mate, why you were cautious with your spending, why you were faithfully serving in your church; why you took your vacation to teach in VBS or go on Mission, why you devoted your life to helping others

### **6) Obedience lasts forever**

your works do follow you

## **3. You Need Patience**

### **\*Waiting is a major part of daily faithfulness**

we wait for the process - the process is slow when you build on rock

Jesus used picture of farmer - plants and he works and he waits patiently

### **\*Patience opens the door to joy that abides**

**Colossians 1:9-11: “For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; <sup>10</sup> that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing *Him*, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; <sup>11</sup> strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy;”**