



# WEEKLY CELL GUIDE

17 JAN 2021 | BUILD TO LAST | LUKE 6:46-49

Speaker: Pastor Ben KC Lee



## WELCOME

[15 MINS]

You may want to look up the following websites for icebreakers suitable for your cell.

[Ice Breakers 1](#)

[Ice Breakers 2](#)



## WORSHIP

[15 MINS]

You may select songs like

1. Yet Not I But Through Christ in Me
2. On Christ the Solid Rock I Stand



## WORD

[45 MINS]

### SPIRITUAL OBJECTIVES

At the end of the sermon discussion, cell members will:

1. Reflect on the attitudes and actions that contribute to building a faith that lasts.
2. Identify common pitfalls to building a storm-proof life.
3. Be convicted to intentionally apply the teaching of Jesus in our lives today.

### SERMON SUMMARY

Pastor Ben preached from [Luke 6:46-49](#) and shared about how two men built similar houses but on different foundations. The foundation refers to what a genuine disciple does with Jesus' claims and teachings.

Their houses – lives of faith - were similar in that:

- Both men heard the words of Christ (vv. 47, 49) ([Romans 10:17](#))
- Both built houses (vv. 47, 49) ([1 Corinthians 3:10](#))
- Both houses were tested (vv. 48 – 49) ([1 Peter 1:7](#))

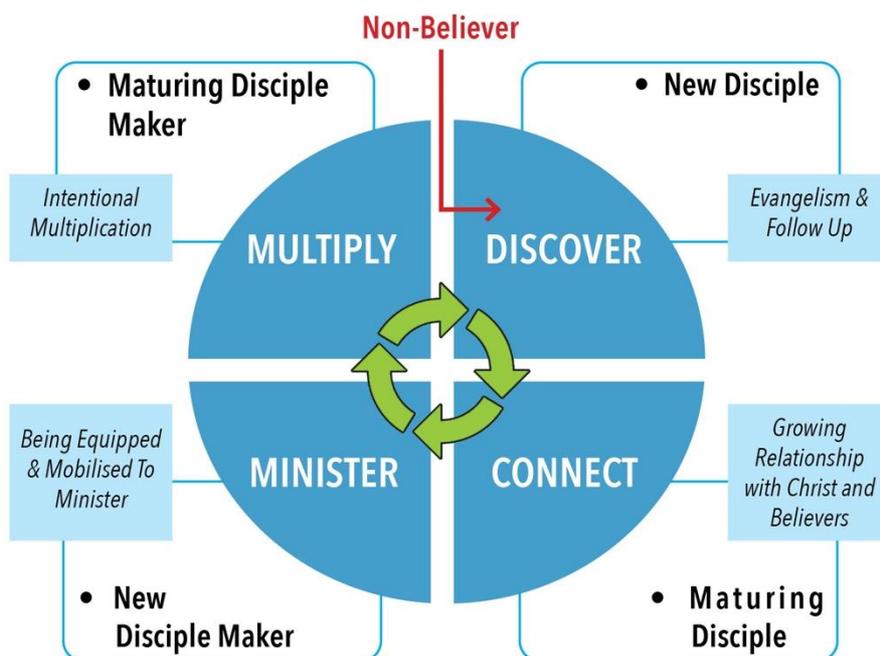
However, the foundations were different, resulting in totally different outcomes when the storm hits

- One put Jesus' words into practice, the other did not (vv. 47, 49) ([1 John 2:3-4](#))
- One sees it as an issue of life and death, the other as merely for life improvement (vv. 48 – 49) ([1 Cor. 3:11](#))
- One house did not fall, the other fell with a great crash (vv. 48 – 49). ([2 Cor. 4:8-9](#), [Prov. 10:25](#))

We will face storms in our lives. May we be doers of the Word, genuine disciples who build our houses on Christ, the foundation that lasts.

## SERMON RECAP

### RECAP: DISCIPLE MAKING ROAD MAP



- The aim is to make it easy for all to identify where we are and what our next step might be.
- This tool is for pre, new and growing Christians.
- This tool illustrates major steps to help us grow spiritually as a disciple.

Source: [rlc.sg/wb2020](http://rlc.sg/wb2020)

As RiverLife Church approaches its 30<sup>th</sup> year, Pastor Ben shared how RiverLifers pressed on through adversity, continued to worship God amidst the ongoing changes and stepped up to serve those in need during these challenging times. He did a recap of the Disciple Making Road Map (shown above). He shared that this season is for developing and enriching the foundations of disciple making. We will be spending this year building on this road map to have conversations on what being a genuine disciple is about.

The life of a genuine disciple is one that is storm-proof. Pastor Ben preached from [Luke 6:46-49](#) (Jesus' conclusion to the Sermon on the Mount). Jesus preached about two men who built similar houses but on different foundations. Are we building something beautiful, meaningful and lasting? In this passage, Jesus focuses on building something that lasts.

In Israel, a wise person would build their house upon a rock instead of building one upon sand. Though it is more difficult to carve out a foundation out of rock, this prevented the possibility of a house being washed away when the floods and torrential rains come as the house remains secure.

Pastor Ben shared with us two observations – *Similar Houses, Different Foundations*:

1) **Similar houses: Their houses (lives of faith) - were similar in that:**

- Both builders heard the words of Christ (vv 47, 49): The Bible tells us that hearing is vital to faith (Romans 10:17). It is vital to hear the words of Christ.
- Both built houses (vv 47, 49): Both houses looked similar. We are all building something in this life. What is the foundation of our lives based on? Is it on someone or something that is temporal or eternal? ([1 Corinthians 3:10](#))
- Both houses were tested (vv. 48 – 49) Both houses experienced a storm. We will all face storms in our lives and the testing we go through reveals our faith. It is not only the storms we will experience in this life, but the ultimate judgment on Judgment Day ([1 Peter 1:7](#)).

2) **Different foundations: This resulted in different outcomes when the storm hit.**

- One put Jesus' words into practice, the other did not (vv 47, 49): The main difference is the action the listener took after listening. What do we do with what we have heard – Is it merely listening or are we intentional in applying what we have heard in our lives ([1 John 2:3-4](#))?. We need to be mindful that while we are saved by faith and not by works, genuine faith lives a life that naturally results in good works.
- One saw the word of Christ as one of life and death, the other as merely for life improvements (vv. 48 – 49) The Word is meant to transform our lives from the inside out. We need to build our lives on Christ ([1 Corinthians 3:11](#)). Following Christ will come at a cost, it is challenging and painful to obey at times. However, He is the only strong foundation that will last when the storms come.
- One house did not fall but the other fell with a great crash when the storms came (vv. 48 – 49). Are we able to press on even when we undergo trials and tribulations ([2 Corinthians 4:8-9](#))? This passage also serves as a warning to those who may be building our lives on what is temporal and exhorts them to build on Christ. We are encouraged to reflect on the foundation we build on ([Proverbs 10:25](#)).

This passage teaches us the importance of us applying what we believe. Are we obedient to Christ and His teachings? Will we be able to last when the storms come? May we practice what we hear and believe, to become like the wise man who built his house on a foundation that will last. Pastor Ben exhorted us to build beneath the surface and to build before the storm comes.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. **Share about an individual or role model in the faith you look up to who built their life purposefully on the right foundation? What were some attitudes or purposeful routines/actions the individual had in his/her life that helped them build on the right foundation? [15 Mins]**

### Leader's Notes

This is a relate question for members to reflect on. One of the best ways we can built on the right foundation is to take reference from those who have done so. Such disciples can serve as an inspiration and guide for us. We can learn from how they purposefully lived their lives and implement habits/values/priorities that they practice in their lives.

### Transition

Building on the right foundation becomes even more critical in the season of storms. During seasons such as this COVID-19 pandemic, many may be tempted to cut corners in our spiritual lives. However, Scripture teaches us that building on the right foundation is important if we want to build lives that endure.

2. **Both builders knew the importance of building a house, yet they built it upon different foundations, and this resulted in different outcomes. What common pitfalls (attitudes, values, routines, priorities) prevent one from building on the solid rock? [10 Mins]**

### Leader's Notes

This is a reflect and response question. Pitfalls that can prevent one from building on the right foundation may include not knowing how to lay spiritual foundation, having an attitude of complacency, or self-deciding that applying the commands of Christ is optional. You can also identify pitfalls that are common for individuals within the life-stage that you are leading. For example, those in the retired may encounter the pitfall of complacency even pride for having “done it all” and “I can now not fully apply the Word”. The early-career stage may struggle with the pitfall of short-term indulgences, distractions so I will serve God “tomorrow”. Young parents may encounter the pitfall of prioritising children above everything else including their personal spiritual life and cell community life. Identifying specific characteristics can help cell members to be more aware of the common pitfalls for each life-stage represented by members in the Cell. Encourage members to share 1 practical step on how they can avoid these pitfalls.

### Transition

Storms reveal what we are building our houses on. In this season, it is good for us to examine the foundations of our spiritual lives and take steps to avoid falling into the common pitfalls that prevent us from building on the right foundation.

3. **Discipleship takes time. Where are you in your discipleship journey? Is there an action you would like to take to build beneath the surface, and to build before the storm comes?** [10 Mins]

### Leader's Notes

Members can take time to refer to the disciple-making road map to reflect on where they are in their discipleship journey. No stage is more or less important than the other, rather it is a stepping stone where we grow from strength to strength in our faith. Also, it is important to note that we do not remain in our comfort zones and instead, desire to grow ourselves and the Church in maturity. Members can share with one another one small action they would like to take to grow in their walk with God and how they could make it practical to build it into their lives.

### Closing

The life of a genuine disciple is one that is storm-proof. We will never know when the storms may come, however we can prepare for these situations by building our lives on Christ, the Foundation that will last forever. As disciples of Christ, may our hearts be convicted to build ourselves and the Church up, to become who God has created us to be and to reach the lost with the love of Christ. May we rely on His strength and love to be doers of the Word and to act quickly on what God has shown us today.



Consider dividing the group into sub-groups for a deeper time of sharing as well as praying for the following items:

1. **Sermon Application.** Pray that:
  - We will remain open to God's Word and have discernment about His truth.
  - We will be convicted about obeying His word and building our lives on what is eternal.
  - Pray that God's Spirit will grant us the conviction, strength and grace we need to live out His truth and love in our lives.
2. **COVID-19.** Continue to pray for a halt in the increase of community cases in Singapore.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

[5 MINS]

1. **Bible Reading Plan.** This year, we are commencing a Bible Reading Plan that will take you through the 66 Books in two years. There are also links to Additional Resources for the overview and key themes and lessons of each Book. You can access our 2-Year Bible Reading Plan 2021-2022 by visiting <https://rlc.sg/brp2021>.
2. **2021 Key Dates.** Do note our church's key dates for 2021 that can be found in our weekly bulletin ([http://www.riverlife.org.sg/sites/files/riverlife/Bulletin\\_20210117\\_web2.pdf](http://www.riverlife.org.sg/sites/files/riverlife/Bulletin_20210117_web2.pdf)).
3. **Water Baptism Class** (In-Person, English Adult congregants only)  
Sat, 20 Feb | 9am to 12pm | Faith Chapel  
Our next baptism service is on Sun, 28 Mar.  
Register for this class at [rlc.sg/baptism-class](http://rlc.sg/baptism-class) by Sun, 14 Feb.  
For enquiries, please contact Karen Koh at [karenkoh@riverlife.org.sg](mailto:karenkoh@riverlife.org.sg)



"HONOUR GOD WITH EVERYTHING YOU OWN;  
GIVE HIM THE FIRST AND THE BEST."  
PROVERBS 3:9 (MSG)

# Give Digitally

Here are two cashless ways to give your tithes and offering.

## 1. PayNow

Log in to your bank's existing mobile banking app.  
Scan this QR code on the right.

SCAN ME



## 2. Interbank Transfer

RiverLife Church Bank Account:  
DBS Autosave 029-902431-0  
Bank Code: 7171  
Branch Code: 029

