

Passing the Tests of Life

Matthew 7:24-29

Sermon Discussion Questions

September 3, 2023

1. What troubles have unexpectedly occurred in your life? How have you seen blessing in the midst of a sudden disaster? How have you looked to God in your circumstances?
2. How does it make you feel when you hear that disaster comes to both those who have built their house on the rock and those who have built their house on the sand?
3. Our passage this week talks about the “sandy house” falling with a “loud crash.” Jesus is drawing attention to how the house is destroyed - in a crash that is visible and audible to those who have built their house around it. **Read Ephesians 5:11-13.** In what ways can a “loud crash” expose darkness in your life?
4. Are you at all overwhelmed by putting into practice the total amount of instruction in the Bible? Which spiritual disciplines are you always wishing you were better at implementing (praying, fasting, studying, meditating, etc)? What freedom do you feel in simply obeying what God is asking you to work on in this season?
5. As Americans, we often view obedience through a negative lens. We often are told we need to think for ourselves and hold on to our autonomy. How have the last two teachings challenged this way of thinking? As we think about things that burden us, how does obedience lighten our load?
6. How have you been putting into practice the messages from the teaching of the Sermon on the Mount? Which teaching has most affected your behavior or mentality when it comes to being a light in this world? How have your choices or actions towards others changed over the summer?
7. What is God asking you to work on in this season? How can you further submit to this work of the Spirit in the coming start of the school/program year?