



The Wise and Foolish Men

Matthew 7:24-29

One day Jesus told a story about building a house. He said, "A wise man built his house on a strong rock. Then the rain came, the river rose, and the winds blew! But the house did not fall down. It was built on strong rock. This wise man is like a person who listens to Me and obeys My words."

"But," said Jesus, "a foolish man built his house on the sand. When the rain and winds came, the house on the sand fell down. It wasn't built on something strong. A person who hears My words but won't follow them is like this foolish man."

Jesus told this story about the wise and foolish men to help people learn how important it is to obey God's words. God's words are true and help people know the best way to live. We can read God's words in the Bible.

Stormy Weather

Collect

Bible, butcher paper, measuring stick, scissors, black and blue markers; optional—yarn, masking tape.

Prepare

For each group of two or three children, cut a 2- to 4-foot (.6- to 1.2-m) long cloud shape from butcher paper.

Do

Children use markers to decorate cloud shapes and make storm clouds. (Optional: Use yarn and masking tape to suspend storm clouds from classroom ceiling or mount on walls.)



Enrichment Ideas

1. Cut large raindrops from gray paper. Children glue raindrops to strands of tinsel or yarn. Tape strands to hang from clouds.
2. Provide blue and white cotton balls. Children glue cotton balls to cloud shapes.
3. Before class, color water with blue food coloring. Put eyedroppers and blue water in small cups. Children use eyedroppers to squeeze raindrops onto white construction paper. Children draw clouds around raindrops.



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The Bible helps me learn ways to obey God.

Talk About

- ☀ Our Bible story today told about two men. One man was wise and built a house on rock. The other man was foolish and built a house on the sand. In a big rainstorm, the house on the sand fell down. This story reminds us to be wise and obey God's words. Let's make storm clouds to help us remember this story.
- ☀ I like the way you shared markers, Tish. Sharing is a way to obey God's words. What are some other things you can share?
- ☀ God gave us His words in the Bible to help us learn ways to obey Him. Lizzie, helping is a way to obey God's words. What are ways you can help?





The House on a Rock

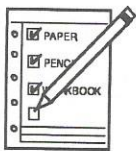
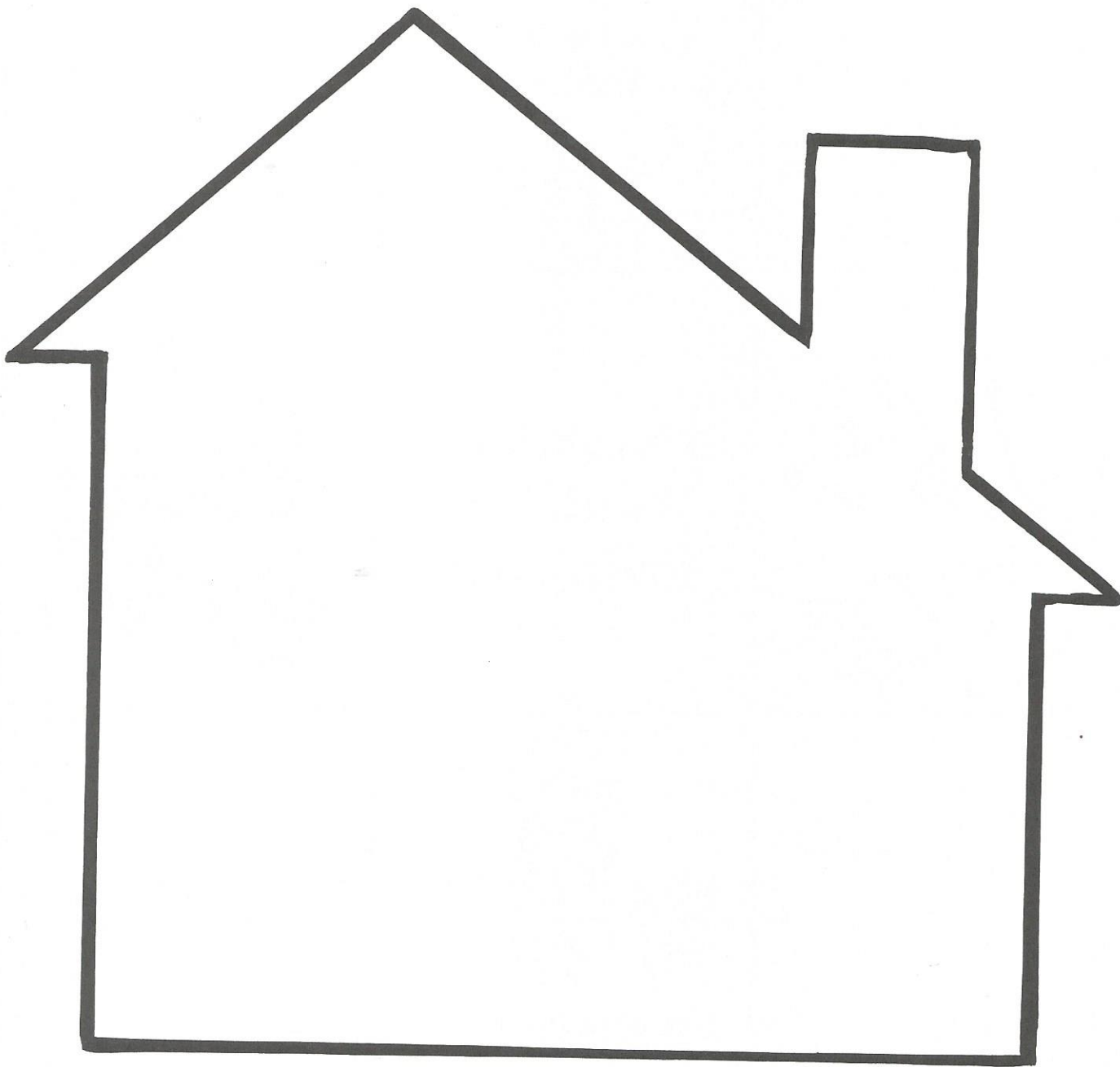
Matthew 7:24-27

Jesus told a special story about building a house on a rock. He said that if we obey the Bible's words, we will feel as strong and safe as a house built on a rock.

You can build a picture house on a rock. Your teacher will help you build the foundation.

Build a House Picture

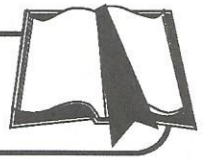
You can glue a brick foundation and a chimney on your house. You can draw windows and doors and glue on cottonball smoke to rise from the chimney. You can say "Thank you, God, for the Bible. I can feel safe and strong as I follow Your Word."



For the Teacher: Give each child a house pattern, a piece of blue construction paper, a 1 x 2-inch red chimney, a 1 x 2-inch blue door, two cotton balls, and five 1-inch brown squares for bricks. Help them glue the picture onto the blue paper and add the chimney and door. Help them glue cotton balls for smoke puffs. Spread a thick layer of glue beneath each house for the children to lay bricks for the foundation. They may draw windows, flowers, etc.

What's Wrong Here?

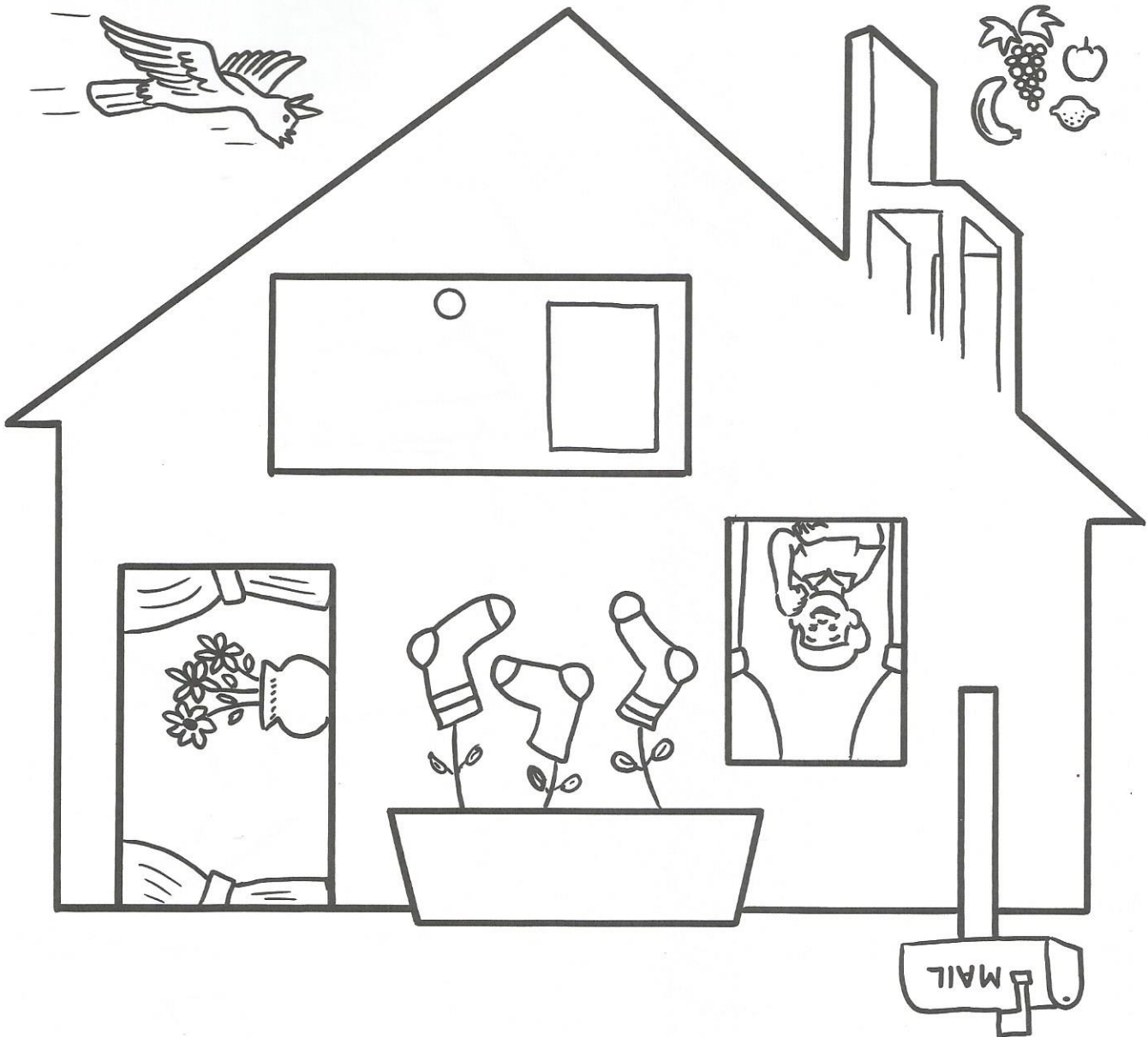
The House on a Rock Matthew 7:24-27



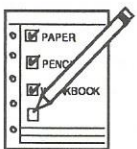
People need plans to build a house correctly. When the walls are built on a strong foundation and the windows and doors are in place, the home is ready for its owners.

God gives us a plan for our lives in the Bible. God's plan works best when we obey Him.

The house in the picture has many things in the wrong place. Have fun finding what is upside down, sideways, or out of place. Color the picture and take it home to your family. See if they can find the things wrong with this house.



Incorrect Objects: upside down bird, fruit smoke, chair on roof, door near roof, sideways window, upside down window, sock flower blossoms, upside down mailbox.



For the Teacher: Let the children take time to find which parts of the picture are wrong. Talk about what might happen if people really did live in a house like this. Help those who cannot locate the mistakes. Have fun with the children as you talk about the mixed-up house in the picture. Say a thank-you prayer to God for giving us laughter and fun in our world. Thank Him for giving us the Bible to follow each day.



A wise man built his house on a rock.
When the storms came, the house did not fall.
People who do what Jesus says to do are like the wise man.



A foolish man built his house on the sand.
When the storms came, the house fell down.
People who do not do what Jesus says to do are like
the foolish man.

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