

SERMON SERIES: If We/Then God
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Key Line

While salvation requires faith, blessing requires obedience.

Introduction

Our actions create reactions and have an effect on what happens around us. Describe a time when you made a decision that had some sort of effect on your life.

Seek the Word

The word “bless” means “to bestow favor” or “to make happy.” What are some blessings you have experienced in your life?

There are some misconceptions about blessings:

- God just gives it away randomly.
- Going to church earns God’s blessings.

If we build our lives upon God’s word, then God will bless our lives.

Read Matthew 7:24-27.

- What does Jesus compare the wise man to? The foolish man? (*A man who builds his house on rock; a man who builds his house on sand*)
- How does he apply this comparison to our lives? (*When we build our lives on his word, we have a firm foundation*)
- Does this mean we will not experience a “crash” if we build our lives on the word of God? What does it mean? (*We will experience the same kinds of trouble, but we will have the right perspective and will have him to rely on and to hold us up.*)

Talk About It

Our lives have a rhythm of breathing in God’s word and being fed by it and breathing out God’s blessing on others. “Spiritual maturing is related to the length of time between hearing God’s word and doing it.”

- What happens when we don’t take time with God on a regular basis?
- Give some concrete ideas for making time to read or meditate on God’s word.
- Share ways you can hold each other accountable and encourage one another in this endeavor this year.