

# Weekly Study Guide

**Something to Think About:** It's one thing to read a book on nutrition and another thing to actually maintain a healthy diet. It's one thing to know a lot about exercise and another thing to actually exercise regularly. Similarly, it's one thing to know what's in the Bible and another thing to actually apply its principles and teachings to life. That's why the Christian faith isn't just about what we know; it's about how we apply it to our everyday lives. Hearing and learning are not enough; it's *doing* that makes all the difference in the world.

If you grew up in a church, was it a church that emphasized “believing”, “learning”, “doing”...or some of each? Explain.

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Of these three—believing the Bible, learning what's in the Bible, and doing what the Bible says—which comes easiest for you? With which do you struggle the most?

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Can you think of any of Jesus' teachings that you find difficult to apply in your life? Why do you think that is?

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Have you ever applied a specific teaching of Scripture that, looking back, prepared you for an unexpected difficulty or tragedy? Explain.

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Read **Matthew 7:24-29**. What does this say about Jesus' view of his own teaching?

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Is there a reason to believe the quality of construction between the two houses mentioned in the text was different in any way? Why or why not?

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Matthew speaks of heavy rains, rising streams and howling winds. How do those words relate to your life's experiences? Do you feel like your “house” is built upon rock or sand? Explain.

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**Daily Prayer:** *God, make me hungry to learn and wise to apply your Son's teachings to my life. Amen.*