



Grace Assembly Of God

## Chapter-by-Chapter Bible Reading Devotional

Scripture:	<b>Matthew 7</b>	Title:	<b>The Wise and Foolish Builders</b>
Author:	<b>Joseph Ooi</b>		
Summary of Chapter:	In this chapter, we find Jesus instructing the people to choose and walk wisely. One road leads us to life, the other ends in death. We find Jesus warning them of false prophets, who come in sheep clothing but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. How can we tell them apart? Jesus' answer is to look at their fruit; a good tree produces good fruit, and a bad tree produces bad fruit. Likewise, you can identify people by their actions.		
<b>Key Verse(s)</b>	<b>How does it speak to me?</b>		
<i>Anyone who listens to my teaching and follows it is wise, like a person who builds a house on solid rock... But anyone who hears my teaching and doesn't obey it is foolish, like a person who builds a house on sand." Matthew 7: 24 &amp; 26.</i>	<p>Some years ago, I gave a seminar to a group of PhD students on "The 7 Habits of Successful Researchers". A student put up his hand and asked, "What is the 8th habit?" He clarified that "in Chinese martial art, the kung fu master always keep the last step a secret." So, he wanted to know my secret step so that he can be better than the rest. The whole class laughed!</p> <p>We may laugh, but deep down, I knew I am no different from the student. I am a scholar at heart. When I study a bible passage, I want to know everything that has been written or said on it. I enjoy digging deep into the word of God. BUT I am reminded in today's devotion that hearing the word alone is not enough. The key is following and obeying God's Word.</p> <p>One point put into practice is better than seven (or eight) points that remained in the head. It is not how much we know, but whether we have acted on what we have heard.</p> <p>IF I DO NOT FOLLOW AND OBEY GOD'S WORDS, I am like the foolish man who builds his house on sand... which will collapse in trying times. Rather, we should be like the wise man who build his house on the rock.</p>		
<b>APPLICATION QUESTIONS</b>			
<b>Adult:</b>	What is God saying to you today? Just do it!		
<b>Youth:</b>	When you choose to befriend someone, how will you know if he or she is reliable?		
<b>Child:</b>	Give a recent example when you have listened to and obeyed (or disobeyed) your parents or teachers. How do you feel? How do they feel?		
<b>P R A Y E R</b>			
<b>Praying Scripture:</b>	Thank you for your word today. I pray for an open and teachable heart, that your word will be seeds that fall on good grounds, grow and produce 10x, 50x, or 100X! I pray also for courage to act upon your word. Let us not only be hearer, but also be doer of your word. Amen.		
<b>Thanksgiving Prayer:</b>	I/We thank you for _____ (e.g. delicious food we ate, places we went, prayer that was answered, etc)		
<b>Intercessory Prayer:</b>	I/We want to pray for _____ (e.g. healing of sickness, family members, work or study, leaders, nation, etc)		
<b>Salvation Prayer:</b>	I/We pray for the salvation of my/our unsaved loved ones _____ (add one name per day). In Jesus' Name I/we pray. Amen.		