

# Parent Study Guide – Bonus Verse 2014-15

## THE ROCK OF SALVATION – Luke 6:47-48

**Passage:** *Everyone who comes to me and hears my words and does them, I will show you what he is like: he is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when a flood arose, the stream broke against that house and could not shake it, because it had been well built.*

– Luke 6:47-48 (ESV)

**Theme:** THE ROCK OF SALVATION – Our future can be built on a firm foundation – Jesus Christ.  
**Metaphor:** HOW WE RESPOND TO THE TRUTH IS LIKE BUILDING A HOUSE – We can stand or fall.  
**Message:** HEARING & DOING WHAT IS TRUE IS A FIRM FOUNDATION FOR LIFE – obeying His word.  
**Action:** BUILD YOUR LIFE ON THE ROCK – by hearing and doing what Jesus taught us to do.

**Discussion Questions:** Answers and suggested responses are underlined.

1. What important event in Jesus' life occurs in Luke 6? – The Sermon on the Mount.
2. Where else is this same event recorded? – Matthew 5-7.
3. How does the Sermon on the Mount end in Matthew and in Luke? – with the parable of the Wise and Foolish Builders (Luke 6: 46-49 and Matthew 7:24-27)
4. What distinguished the wise builder from the foolish builder? – The wise builder heard Jesus' words and acted accordingly. The foolish builder heard the same teaching but did nothing.
5. What does the metaphor of building a house represent? – It is the picture of building something to last, a permanent dwelling. It should be able to withstand the storm, the wind and the flood, just as our lives should be able to withstand trials and testing.
6. What does the foundation (the rock or the sand) represent? – our preparation for the future, the resource we rely upon both for this life and the life to come
7. Why did the house on the rock stand firm? – The builder dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock, a solid foundation against storms and floods. He built on something that would last.
8. Why was the ruin of the foolish builder's house so great? – Everything that was supposed to stand firm was washed away. He built on something weak and unstable that could not stand through the storm. He had not prepared for the harsh realities of life.
9. What important question does Jesus ask before telling this parable? – "Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord' and not do what I tell you?" (Luke 6:46).

10. Who, according to David, is our “rock” and our “salvation” (Psalm 62:1-2)? – God is the source of our salvation; He is our rock and our salvation. He is the source of our stability both for this life and the life to come.
11. What is the Rock of Salvation? – Jesus Christ is God’s provision for us. He is the Rock of our salvation, but we cannot build on that foundation without responding to His teaching.
12. How do we build our lives on the Rock? – by having hearts that seek after God, ready to obey what Christ taught us, being doers of the word and not just hearers
13. What did James say about being a doer of God’s Word (James 1:22)? – Be doers of the word, and not just hearers, who deceive themselves (James 1:22-25). To hear the word and not act accordingly is a form of self-deception, a life habit that will make us unstable and lead to ruin.
14. What is required of true faith (James 2:26)? – True faith will always demonstrate itself in true works of faith, actions based on real beliefs. Just as our physical life shows the living response of physical activity, our spiritual life shows the living response of spiritual activity. These acts of faith reveal the life of the spirit within us. When works of faith are missing, there is a lack of true faith. “Faith without works is dead.”

### **Biblical & Theological Background:**

1. There are those who call Christ “Lord” who will not enter the kingdom of heaven (Matt. 7:21-23 and Luke 13:25-27). But this does not mean that our confession of His Lordship is unimportant (Matt. 10:32-33). It means that it must arise from an honest and sincere heart.
2. Hearing and doing is taught throughout scripture (Ex. 15:26; Deut. 7:12; Rom. 2:13; Jas. 1:22-25). Coming to Him and obeying His commands are essential for entering His kingdom.
3. But the “doing” God desires from us must arise from a transformed heart that seeks after God (Luke 6:43-45). It’s not the actions themselves that save us, but rather the reason we are committed to those actions. It is the One behind those actions that is the source of our salvation (1 Cor. 3:13).
4. Scripture teaches that it is possible to build on a foundation that will last (1 Cor. 3:11-15; 1 John 2:17). Christ and His teaching is that foundation (Is. 28:16; 1 Peter 2:4-8; 1 John 2:6).
5. The habit of hearing but not doing leads to ruin. For those who reject Christ and His teaching there will be complete destruction (Ezek. 13:11; Luke 6:24-26). Jesus is the rock of our salvation, but we must come to Him seeking His truth, hearing His word, and responding in obedience in order to build on that foundation (John 8:32; John 13:17; Jas. 1:25; 1 John 3:18).

For additional study materials on the Bonus Verse and a copy of the “Ten Step Bible Memory Method for Life,” go to [www.icsva.org/student-life/bonus-verse](http://www.icsva.org/student-life/bonus-verse) on the Immanuel Christian School website.