



HOW CAN YOU BUILD YOUR LIFE WELL?

Slide 1

Today we are going to talk about **Slide 2** construction. Construction of what?

Slide 3 A bridge, a **Slide 4** plane? No, not really. A construction that concerns us all and must be successful. **Slide 5** Do you have an idea? Yes, **Slide 6** the construction of our life. It may seem a bit complicated but to help us to see more clearly, we will tell us how **Slide 7** two men built their House. Both wanted it to be beautiful and solid but to build something you have to know the rules, you have to have **Slide 8** a plan, you can't just do anything. This is why we often call on competent people, **Slide 9** architects for example.

Now let's listen I will tell you about the construction of these two houses. You can find this story at the end **Slide 10** of chapter 6 of the Gospel of Luke.

Then you can answer my question: **Slide 11** what do these houses represent?

Slide 12 WHAT DO THESE HOUSES REPRESENT?

Slide 13 Imagine these 2 men who decided to build their house. They start looking for a location.

Slide 14 They have a proposal:

- Why don't you take this land by the river? **Slide 15** It's sand: it's easy to dig. **Slide 16** Your construction will be finished quickly and you will be able to live there quickly!

The first man **Slide 17** hesitates; he's not really convinced.

The second does not think.

Slide 18 - Okay, I'm settling here. The place suits me. And he buys the land.

The first man patiently **Slide 19** continues his research until one day:

Slide 20 - Ah, I've found it! This is exactly the place for me; **Slide 21** under the earth there is rock; so my house will have solid foundations. The construction will be more difficult and take longer, it is true, but this it's worth it! **Slide 22** I want a solid house!

And he buys the land. The construction of the houses begins. **Slide 23** The first man goes to great lengths to carve deep foundations down to rock. He digs and digs deeper and deeper.

Slide 24 - Not easy at all what you're doing here! says a friend, it takes a lot of your time and many efforts. Why do you want to settle here at all costs?

- Because **Slide 25** I want my house to have a good foundation. I want it to be solid!

And he continues to dig. **Slide 26** The work is progressing slowly. After several months, the shutters and the door are fixed, and one fine day:

Slide 27 -Yeh! The children cry. **Slide 28** The house is finished!

Slide 29 - We're going to be happy here! Thinks this man as he gazes at his house.

Slide 30 The second man builds directly on the sand, without a foundation. The job is easy and moves fast.

Slide 31 - Great, my house is growing fast! He says, rubbing his hands together.

Slide 32 And some time later:

Slide 33 - Quickly, let's go and get the furniture, the jugs, the rugs... **Slide 34** let's move into our new home!

Slide 35 Time passes...

One day, **Slide 36** large clouds appear on the horizon. The sky becomes quite dark. **Slide 37** The rain starts to fall, first a few drops, **Slide 38** then harder and harder. The two men and their family take shelter in their homes. They carefully close the door and shutters. Lightning lights up the sky.

Slide 39 The thunder rumbles, the wind howls, the rain is pouring down:

- It really is a very violent storm," says the first man. **Slide 40** Fortunately, we are in security. Our house has a solid foundation.

In the second house, they begin to be worried. The father says:

Slide 41 - The water in the river continues to come up! It's no longer a river, **Slide 42** it's a torrent!

A few hours later:

- Oh disaster! The torrent is overflowing! The water invades the garden! It goes into the house. It's flooding!

Slide 43 - Dad! Dad! The house is moving

- It's the wind, my son, it is too strong!

- Oh! The walls are cracking! Water is seeping under the door. **Slide 44** Quick, everybody out, we must go!

Slide 45 The whole family rushes out of the house. It was time ...

because the house **Slide 46** collapsed in a terrible crash! It is just a heap of rubble.

Slide 47 - What a pity! The desperate man moans. What are we going to do? We've lost everything! I should not have chosen this field! I should never have built on sand! Ah! If I had taken the time to reflect, we would not have lost everything.

After several hours, **Slide 48** the flashes are spaced; the wind calms; the rain stops.

Slide 49 The first man and his family come out of the house:

Slide 50 - What a storm! I've never seen anything like that, such a violent wind!

-Yes, Dad, **Slide 51** but our house has resisted. It is still standing and it is not even damaged.

- Yes, it has resisted because **Slide 52** it was built on good ground; it is built on rock and it has a solid foundation!

Slide 53 Jesus gave the explanation of this story to all these people gathered around him:

*"He who comes to me **Slide 54** listens to what I say and puts it into practice, is like **Slide 55** a wise, prudent man who built his home, his life on the rock. **Slide 56** On the contrary he who hears what I say and does not take it into account is like **Slide 57** the foolish man who built his house on sand."*

Slide 58 1, 2 3, 4 AND YOU AND ME!

So? These 2 houses, **Slide 59** what do they represent? Did you find the answer?

Jesus took this image of a house to talk **Slide 60** about our lives. Indeed, day after day, you build your life, your future and even your eternity by the choices you do, the decisions you make. For example, when you decide to work better in school, you are preparing your professional future. Whereas if you spend your evenings on your chat phone, you're going to meet difficulties at school, at home, etc ... When you decide to stop eating all kinds of sweets, you maintain your body healthy, you build your health home.

What can guide you in your choices, your decisions: **Slide 61** honesty, truth, respect for other or lying, deceit, malice, theft?

I let you think about it. But if you want your life to be successful, then, now, **Slide 62** listen to what Jesus said and put it into practice.

Slide 63 4, 3, 2, 1 AND WE PARENTS!

If we summarize Jesus' teaching in 2 words, we can say, **Slide 64** listen to him and obey him. This is the best way to build a good life. We know it when we take stock; we find that we now live the consequences of our choices, of our decisions; for us, for our children, not only for life on earth but also for eternity.

To help us make the best choices we can meditate on the teachings of Jesus, and seek his will.

He is an excellent guide. Is He not the best architects and a patient building site foreman?

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