

# The Story

## Jesus The Teacher

Sherwood Oaks Christian Church

Week of March 1, 2009

**We're taking the liberties of expanding some of The Story as we study more specifically about Jesus Christ and different aspects of his life and ministry and person.**

**This week, let's look at the fact that, among other things, he was a teacher.**

### **Matthew 7:24-29**

"Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash."

When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at his teaching, because he taught as one who had authority, and not as their teachers of the law.

1. Jesus often taught using stories or parables that helped people understand important messages. Though they may cover difficult subjects, amazingly many of these stories are even understandable by children! (This story of the wise and foolish builders is certainly an awful lot like The Three Little Pigs and the Big Bad Wolf.) **What stories do you remember hearing/reading as a kid that also taught an important lesson?**
2. **How can adults benefit as well from these kinds of stories?**
3. Those last verses in Matthew 7 say that the crowds were amazed at the teaching, because "he taught as one who had authority." **What was it in Jesus' teaching or style that gave people this impression? What set him apart from "their teachers of the law?" Was it just a difference in style?**
4. **Based on the story/parable of the Wise and Foolish Builders, which of the builders are you most like? Or have you been like each of them in different situations?**
5. **How have specific teachings of Jesus Christ affected YOUR life? (or How have NOT following specific teachings of Jesus Christ affected your life?)**
6. It seems clear than many people in the world today agree that Jesus was a "good teacher," but they may believe that this is the extent of his importance. On the other hand, there are many people in the world who say that Jesus is the Son of God, but are like the foolish builder who hear these words of his but do not put them into practice. **What do you see as the problems with each of these responses?**