

LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE FOR THE WEEK OF 6/20/10

Series: RADITUDE—sticking out in the crowd (XX)

Message: Foundations Matter!

Scripture: Matthew 7:24-29

1. Read Matthew 7:24-27. Why do you think Jesus chose this parable story as his conclusion to the Sermon on the Mount?

Is Jesus trying to scare persons into being his followers?

Are scare tactics a legitimate way of convincing persons to follow Jesus today?

2. Why do you think Jesus lists “*hearing his words and then putting them into practice*” (7:24) as the rock foundation on which to build life? Why not just a simple call to make him the foundation of your life?

3. What did the rabbis mean in the Mishna when they said, “*To learn is not the main thing, but to practice*”?

Why do we modern, American Christians need to learn this truth?

4. Author and theologian A.W. Tozer wrote, “*It is altogether doubtful whether any man can be saved who comes to Christ for his help, but with no intention to obey him.*”

If we are saved by grace alone through faith, is obedience critical for salvation?

Read James 2:14-19. What did you think is the central teaching of James in this passage?

5. In one sentence describe the foundation you are attempting to build your life upon?

What do you think Donald Miller meant when he wrote: “*The most difficult lie I have ever contended with is this: Life is a story about me.*” Have you contended with this in your own life?

6. Describe a “storm” in your life that revealed how solid the foundation of your life was. What did you learn at that time?

7. How has our half year study of the Sermon on the Mount changed your perspective on Jesus’ most famous teaching time? What will you take away from our study of this “sermon” and apply to your life?