

Putting in a New Foundation

(...while living in the house!)

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."

Matthew 7:24-27 (NIV)

Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed--not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence--continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, **for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.**

Philippians 2:12-13 (NIV)

1. Jack up the house – (Better call a pro who knows how!)

Dear friends, this is now my second letter to you. I have written both of them as reminders to stimulate you to wholesome thinking.

2 Peter 3:1 (NIV)

"Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind." Romans 12:2a (NIV)

Brethren, do not be children in your thinking; yet in evil be infants, but in your thinking be mature. 1 Corinthians 14:20 (NASB)

2. Remove the old foundation – (Can't skip this step!)

- Renouncing the untruths life taught you to believe.
- Get healing of the wounds these lies have inflicted.

If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come. 2 Corinthians 5:17 (NASB)

3. Lay a new, solid foundation:

What does God say about _____? (*Your issue*)

To those who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you (abide in) my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." John 8:31-32 (NIV)

- Saturate yourself in God's Word in the area of your struggle
- "Cry out" for understanding & revelation (Proverbs 2:1-5)
- Confess the truth out loud (Why?)

For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. Rom. 10:10 (NIV)

4. This process takes time and intentionality!

What I don't understand about myself is that I decide one way, but then I act another, doing things I absolutely despise. **But I need something more!** For if I know the (truth) but still can't keep it, and if the power of sin within me keeps sabotaging my best intentions, I obviously need help! I realize that I don't have what it takes. I can will it, but I can't do it. I decide to (believe truth), but I don't really do it; I decide not to (believe lies), but then I do it anyway. My decisions, such as they are, don't result in actions. Something has gone wrong deep within me and gets the better of me every time. It happens so regularly that it's predictable. The moment I decide to (believe truth), something is there to trip me up. I truly delight in God's (truth), but it's pretty obvious that not all of me joins in that delight. Parts of me covertly rebel, and just when I least expect it, they take charge. I've tried everything and nothing helps. I'm at the end of my rope. **Is there no one who can do anything for me?** Isn't that the real question? The answer, thank God, is that Jesus Christ can and does.

Romans 7:15, 17-25a (MSG)

5. God's transformative answer

"When the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth. John 16:13a (NASB)

My son, if you accept my words and store up my commands
within you,

Turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to
understanding,

And if you call out for insight and cry aloud for
understanding,

And if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for
hidden treasure,

Then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the
knowledge of God.

Proverbs 2:1-5 (NIV)