

# App Store

## LARGE GROUP LESSON

### **BOTTOM LINE:**

Jesus wants to be #1 in our lives.

### **OBJECTIVE:**

Kids will state why they need to make Jesus #1 in their lives.

### **KEY PASSAGE:**

Matthew 7:24-27, The Wise and Foolish Builders

### **INTRO:**

Some games are played to win or lose. Some games are played to gain more points, more options, more cards, more characters. And some games are played just to be played. Today we're going to talk about an app that falls into that third category. There's no scoring in this game. There are no points to be won, and there's no top score to beat. You don't earn extra cards or characters or anything playing this game either. What you do get is hours and hours and hours of enjoyment building, tearing down, and rebuilding a world that is all your own, a world without boundaries or limitations. Today we're talking about Minecraft.

Minecraft is like an intensified game of Legos on a screen. It's a building game where you can build and create just about anything you can imagine. The difference, however, between Minecraft and Legos is you never run out of pieces! You won't end up with an all yellow house with one blue brick because you ran out of yellow, and your building won't stop on the 12th floor because you ran out of pieces. You can keep growing and building your Minecraft world as far as the imagination takes you.

Some Minecraft players have done amazing things. They've build replicas of everything from the Taj Mahal to the USS Enterprise starship. Some love to do the impossible, defying gravity with their buildings and palaces that seem to hang in the air, with nothing to support them!

Of course in real life, that would never happen. A house, a store, a church, any building cannot stand without a firm foundation. If there's no foundation, no hard, wide, strong building block to start that building effort, then that building will not stand.

Jesus spoke about foundations in one of his earliest sermons, but this was no lecture to home builders. Listen and hear what Jesus has to tell us.

# LARGE GROUP LESSON

## READ MATTHEW 7:24-27

### MAIN POINT:

Jesus says that the foolish builder sets his house on the sand. When the wind and the waves come, the house will crash to the ground but not so with the house on the solid rock. It will stand up to the elements and whatever else may come. That, Jesus says, is the choice of the wise builder.

Of course, Jesus wasn't talking about builders. He was talking about us. And he wasn't talking about building homes either. Jesus was talking about our lives. Jesus knows that the world is going to try and get us to build our lives on all sorts of false foundations. Only one foundation is strong enough to weather the storms of life, and that's Jesus.

Jesus is the firm foundation. If we make Jesus number one in our hearts and our lives, we will be able to withstand any storm that comes our way.

### DRIVE IT HOME:

If you want to know what a life built on the sand looks like, take a look at the news. Every day we hear stories about actors, singers, businessmen, and other people who seem to have it all. They are famous. They have money. They have things. And yet, they are unhappy. No matter how much they have, the storms of life keep knocking them down.

A life built on wealth is a house built on sand. So is a life built on fame, or popularity, or possessions. All of these things are nice, but if you try to build your life on them, you will get knocked down every time.

Money, fame, and the things of this world are temporary. They are here one day and gone the next. Jesus is eternal. He is with us all day, every day, and he promises to never leave us. Money can't give you comfort when a family member dies. Popularity won't keep you strong when you miss out on making the team you wanted to play for. The things of this world aren't permanent enough to give us a firm foundation.

Jesus is God's Son. He died for our sins, and if we believe in him, we will live forever. Only Jesus can dry our tears, ease our pain, and keep us strong when life gets tough. That's why Jesus wants to be number one. He wants to be our foundation.

Life isn't like Minecraft. We don't have unlimited resources, and we cannot defy gravity. We need a firm foundation. We all need Jesus!

### CLOSE WITH A SIMPLE PRAYER:

*Dear God,*

*Help us make Jesus first in our lives. In Jesus' name, Amen*