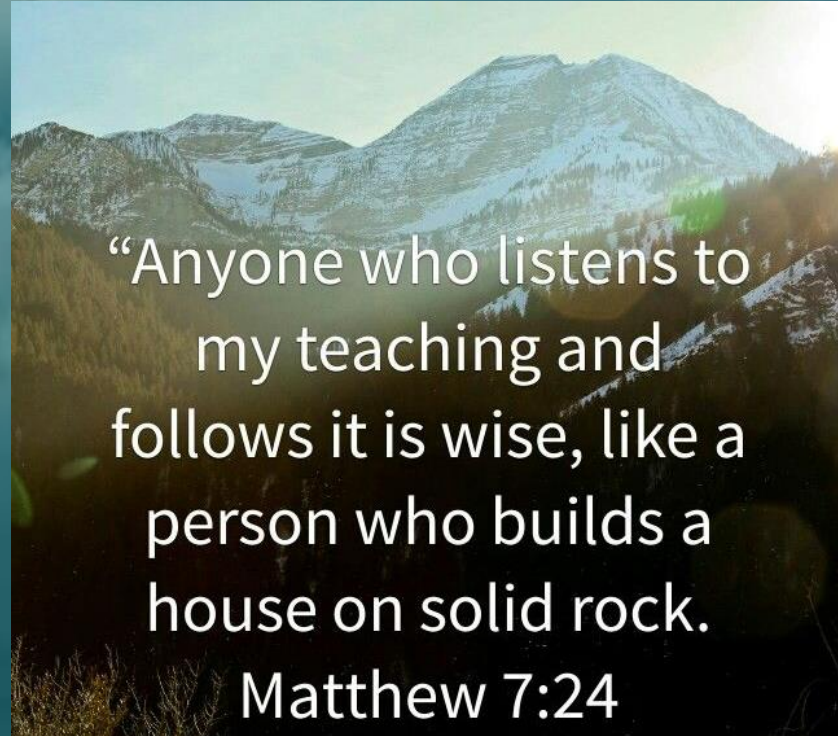


Rooted in Jesus' teachings, "What is Jesus For?"

*Putting Jesus' teachings into
practice gives us a foundation
for life.*

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SCOTT SWEETLAND
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“Anyone who listens to
my teaching and
follows it is wise, like a
person who builds a
house on solid rock.

Matthew 7:24

What was Jesus For?

▶ #1A Love God: The Greatest Commandment, Part 1

Mark 12: 28-30 – #1A - LOVE GOD

²⁸ One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, “Of all the commandments, which is the most important?”

²⁹ “The most important one,” answered Jesus, “is this: ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.’^[a] ³⁰ Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.

#1A - Love God

- ▶ **Jesus is for Loving God!**
- ▶ **Love the Lord your God** with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. – Mark 12:30
- ▶ Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me - Matt 10:38
- ▶ Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. - Matt 16:24
- ▶ **Love God** over all else (including money)!

#1A - Love God (Love and Obey)

- ▶ “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.” - Matt 7:24
- ▶ Jesus is for **Obeying** God’s will for our lives
- ▶ Keep the commandments - Matt 5:19, Matt 15:2-9, Mark 6: 6-7
- ▶ Do the Will of the Father - Matt 7:21, Matt 12:50
- ▶ Do God’s will not your own - Matt 26:39
- ▶ Set your mind on the things of God, not the things of man - Matt 16:23
- ▶ Get rid of temptations to sin in your life - Matt 18:7-9, Mark Ch 9:42

#1A - Love God (Love, Pray, and Trust God)

- ▶ Jesus is for **prayer!** But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words - Matt 6:6-7
- ▶ For where two or three are gathered in my name, there I am among them - Matt 18:20
- ▶ Jesus is for **faith!** And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith - Matt 21:22
- ▶ Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest - Matt 11:28

#1A - Love God (Love and Serve God)

- ▶ Jesus is for **Serving God!**
- ▶ Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only” - Matt 4:10
- ▶ Let your light shine that others may see your good deeds and praise your Father in Heaven - Matt 5:14
- ▶ We need to be **good and faithful servants** to the Lord in the meantime – Parable of the Talents - Matt 25:14-30.
- ▶ Make disciples! Great Commission

What is Jesus For?

▶ #1B Love People: The Greatest Commandment, Part 2

Mark 12: 31-33 – #1B - LOVE PEOPLE

³¹ The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’
There is no commandment greater than these.”

³² “Well said, teacher,” the man replied. “You are right in saying that God is one and there is no other but him. ³³ To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself is more important than all burnt offerings and sacrifices.”

#1B - Love People

- ▶ Jesus is for Loving People!
- ▶ **In everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets - Matt 7:12**
- ▶ Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you - Matt 5:44
- ▶ Jesus came not to call the righteous, but the sinners - Matt 9:13
- ▶ “So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish” - Matt 18:14
- ▶ So the last will be first and the first will be last - Matt 20:16

#1B - Love People (Love and Serve People)

- ▶ Jesus is for Serving people! Even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and give his life as a ransom for many - Matt 20:28
- ▶ Go rather to the lost sheep of Israel - Matt 10:6
- ▶ If you had known what these words mean, I desire mercy, not sacrifice, you would not have condemned the innocent - Matt 12:7
- ▶ The Sabbath was made for man, not Man for the Sabbath - Mark 2:27
- ▶ Jesus replied “They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat” – Matt 14:16
- ▶ For I was hungry and you gave me food, for I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me” - Matt 25:35-36

What is Jesus For? #2 - Forgiveness

- ▶ Jesus is for **Forgiveness!**
- ▶ Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times? Jesus answered, **I tell you, not seven times, but 77 times!** - Matt 18:21-22
- ▶ For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins – Matt 6:14-15
- ▶ Do not judge others, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn others, or it will all come back against you. Forgive others, and you will be forgiven – Luke 6:37
- ▶ When you are praying, first forgive anyone you are holding a grudge against, so that your Father in heaven will forgive your sins, too – Mark 11:25

What is Jesus For? #3 - Your Heart Matters

- ▶ **For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks...a good person brings forth good, an evil person brings forth evil...it's a matter of the heart - Matt 12:35**
- ▶ Blessed are the Pure in Heart for they will see God– Matt 5:8
- ▶ For where your treasure is, your heart will be also – Matt 6:21
- ▶ Jesus is for **Repentance!** “....Jesus said to them “I tell you the truth, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you” – Matt 21:31
- ▶ But the things that come out of the mouth come from the heart, and these make a man unclean – Matt 15:18
- ▶ Jesus is for **Humility!** Therefore, whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven - Matt 18:4

How can you Root yourself in What Jesus is For?

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- ▶ Love, Obey, Pray, Trust and Serve God
 - ▶ Bible Study, Life Groups, Church Attendance, Get involved!
- ▶ Love and Serve People
 - ▶ Find what makes you passionate
- ▶ Forgive others
- ▶ Have a heart for God

“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.” – Matt 7:24

Jesus is for YOU!!