

## Build on the Rock

### Read Luke 6.46-49

16. This is a well known parable. What was the questions which Jesus asked the disciples (v46) prompting the parable?

17. What does this parable show about the importance of Jesus' teaching?

18. This short series on Jesus' teaching is an opportunity not just to read what Jesus said but to think about it carefully and prayerfully? But in the end building on the rock is not just about hearing, what is it about? (cf James 1.22-25.)

## Pray

Pray that God would help us to take to heart the Word of God and, particularly in this series, Jesus' teaching. Pray that we would not just be hearers but also doers.

There seems to be an escalation of tension in our world partly stirred up by leaders. Pray for those who are leaders and that they might take to heart the teaching of Jesus as a way to seek peace and forgiveness rather than create greater unrest and hatred.

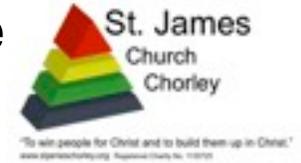
Pray for our church development appeal and for the Parochial Church Council as it meets on 17th January to decide what action to take in the light of the response. There are pointers for prayer on the back of the appeal leaflet.

*David Phillips,  
January 2018*

## Jesus' teaching in Luke

### Week 1

### The Sermon on the Plain



*This short series on Jesus' teaching goes alongside the sermon series on the life of Jesus. In the studies we will look at the sermon on the plain (chapter 6), on the road to Jerusalem (chapter 11 to 18) and in the days before the crucifixion (chapters 20 and 21).*

*The sermon on the plain, as it is known took place later than the sermon on the mount recorded by Matthew. As we would expect Jesus said the same or similar things more than once. This would be the first or second year of His public ministry.*

## Blessings & curses

### Read Luke 6.17-26

1. In what ways does the world today value wealth, fulness (and excess), entertainment and popularity? How do Jesus' words to His disciples in these verses challenge that way of thinking?
2. How might the disciples find themselves poor, hungry etc because of following Him. (For example compare with Mark 10.28-31.)
3. Following Jesus in 21st century Britain can seem relatively easy. What costs are there?

4. What are the dangers of the four things (riches etc) Jesus mentions in verses 24 to 26?

5. Possessions, fulness, entertainment, reputation and such like can all stop people from trusting in Christ (cf Mk 10.17ff) or lead people away from Christ (cf Lk 8.14). Which might be the greatest temptation or cost for you?

## **Love Your Enemies**

### **Read Luke 6.27-36**

6. Why does what Jesus says in verse 27-31 go so much against the grain of what people generally think?

7. When we see political and business leaders who seem to profit from walking over other people do you think it is possible for a Christian who takes Jesus' words seriously to hold or aspire to such positions?

8. If people followed Jesus' teaching in these verses how would it transform relationships and society?

9. What motivations does Jesus give here for following His teaching?

10. What does Jesus say about God's goodness to bad people at the end of verse 35. This is an aspect of what is known as common grace. In what ways do we see it all around us? (eg Matt 5.45)

## **Judging Others**

### **Read Luke 6.37-45**

11. Clearly Jesus doesn't mean never rebuke someone or help them to see wrong in their lives since He himself did both. What sort of things is He therefore talking about?

12. What impact does a judgemental or unforgiving attitude have in families, friendships and churches?

13. What motivation does Jesus give in these verse?

14. How does the parable in verses 39 to 42 add to what He Jesus said?

15. How should the parable in verse 43 to 45 stir us up to examine ourselves in the light of Jesus' teaching?