

National Junior High Sunday 2021

“Build Wisely” based on Matthew 7:24

Invitation to Give

Matt DeBall

Knowledge. Tools. Resources. Time. All these are necessary for building a house—or anything. Simply put, the goal is to have enough of these things in order to successfully complete any task of construction. However, the psalmist reminds us, “Unless the LORD builds the house, those who build it labor in vain” (127:1). Indeed, to make anything of value in this life, Jesus, the skilled carpenter and co-creator of the world, reveals that we need his words and ways as our foundation. Depending fully on the Lord doesn’t mean that we won’t face setbacks, challenges, and storms, but it ensures that we won’t ever come to ruin.

Just like building a house, giving money can involve risk. Supporting the ministries of the church means surrendering to God rather than trying to be in control and challenges us to make personal sacrifices to care for others. Nonetheless, the God who invites us to be generous has a long reputation of being generous, too. When we follow the movement of the Holy Spirit and give of our resources and ourselves, we can lean on God, from whom all blessings flow, to meet our every need. Indeed, God holds all time, talent, and treasure, and distributes them for every situation that requires.

Trusting in the word of God and the ways of Jesus today, let us now collect our offering.