

Builder of the House

October 11, 2026 Lesson 6

Bible Basis: Hebrews 3:1–6 and Matthew 7:24–29

Bible Truth: Jesus is the one who is faithful while accomplishing God’s plan.

Memory Verse: For this man was counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as he who hath builded the house hath more honour than the house. (Hebrews 3:3)

Core Takeaway: Hebrews 3:1–6 calls believers to fix their attention on Jesus—our *Apostle* and *High Priest*—and to remain faithful as members of God’s household. Moses was faithful as a servant, but Christ is faithful as the Son over the house. The passage challenges adults to examine where their confidence, loyalty, and identity truly rest.

Lesson Overview: Begin with the context and central truth of Hebrews 3:1–6, examine why Jesus is greater than Moses, explore the wise and foolish builders in Matthew 7:24–29, connect both passages, and conclude with discussion, application, and reflection.

1. Lesson Aim

Teaching Prompt: Invite participants to name what they hope to understand or practice by the end of the lesson. Briefly connect their responses to the four lesson aims.

Participants will:

- Understand the significance of Jesus as Apostle and High Priest.
- Compare the faithfulness of Moses and Christ.
- Reflect on what it means to be part of God’s household.
- Identify practical ways to remain faithful in daily life.

2. Historical Background & Context

Teaching Prompt: Ask, “What kinds of pressure or discouragement can cause believers to drift?” Use responses to explain why the original audience needed a renewed focus on Christ.

Hebrews is written to believers facing pressure, discouragement, and temptation to drift back into old patterns. The author consistently elevates Christ above angels, prophets, priests, and now Moses—the most revered person in Israel’s history.

In Hebrews 3:1–6, the writer encourages believers to:

- **Consider Jesus** (v.1) — meaning to fix the mind, study deeply, and pay close attention.
- Recognize His dual role:
 - **Apostle** — the One sent from God to humanity.
 - **High Priest** — the One who represents humanity before God.
- Understand that Jesus is superior to Moses because:
 - Moses was faithful *in* God’s house.
 - Jesus is faithful *over* God’s house as the Son.

How Matthew 7:24–29 Complements Hebrews 3:1–6

Teaching Prompt: Have learners listen for the shared house imagery in both passages. Ask them to note what Hebrews teaches about the builder and what Matthew teaches about the foundation.

Although Matthew 7:24–29 and Hebrews 3:1–6 emphasize different aspects of discipleship, they complement one another: Matthew shows that obedience reveals the foundation of a believer’s life, while Hebrews shows that sustained attention to Jesus strengthens faithfulness.

- Matthew says: Obedience proves your foundation.
- Hebrews says: Focus on Jesus strengthens your faithfulness.

Together they teach:

A faithful life is built on both *hearing and obeying Jesus’ words* and *fixing your thoughts* on Jesus Himself.

Matthew confronts the behavior of disciples.

Hebrews strengthens the identity of disciples.

One warns. One encourages. Both call believers to a life anchored in Christ.

What We've Learned So Far:

Hebrews 1: Jesus is greater than the angels.

Hebrews 2: Therefore, pay close attention to what God has spoken through Him.

The Lesson: Jesus, the Builder and Foundation of God's House

I. The Greatness of Jesus — Hebrews 3:1–6 (KJV)

Teaching Prompt: Before reading, ask participants to watch for the words that describe Jesus, Moses, and God's house. Afterward, invite them to summarize the central contrast in one sentence.

¹Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus;

²Who was faithful to him that appointed him, as also Moses was faithful in all his house.

³For this man was counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as he who hath builded the house hath more honour than the house.

⁴For every house is builded by some man; but he that built all things is God.

⁵And Moses verily was faithful in all his house, as a servant, for a testimony of those things which were to be spoken after;

⁶But Christ as a son over his own house; whose house are we, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end.

What's Happening Here?

This is Hebrews 3:1–2, and the writer is making a comparison between Jesus and Moses.

Verse 1

"Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling..."

The word **"wherefore"** means *"because of what I just told you."* Hebrews 1–2 has been establishing that Jesus is greater than angels and that He became fully identified with humanity to save us.

So the writer says, essentially:

"Because Jesus is who I've just described, pay close attention to Him."

He calls them readers: (Jewish/Hebrew community)

- **"holy brethren"** — people who belong to God and share in the same spiritual family.
- **"partakers of the heavenly calling"** — people who have been called by God to share in His salvation and ultimately His heavenly kingdom.

Then comes the command:

"consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus"

"Consider" means more than casually looking at Jesus. It carries the indication of *carefully fixing your attention on Him; think deeply about who He is and what He has done.*

Two titles are especially important:

"Apostle" — Jesus is the one sent by God to us. He is God's representative and messenger to humanity.

"High Priest" — Jesus is also the one who represents us before God. This becomes a huge theme throughout Hebrews: Jesus doesn't merely tell us about God; He brings us to God.

So Jesus stands between God and humanity in both directions:

God → Jesus → us

He is God's sent representative.

us → Jesus → God

He represents us before God.

That's why Hebrews tells its readers to *"consider"* Him.

Verse 2

"Who was faithful to him that appointed him, as also Moses was faithful in all his house."

Now the writer introduces a comparison with **Moses**.

Moses was enormously important in Jewish history. He was God's servant through whom God gave Israel the Law and established the covenant.

The point isn't that Moses was unfaithful. Quite the opposite:

Moses was faithful.

But Hebrews is setting up an argument:

Jesus is like Moses in one important respect—both were faithful to God—but Jesus is greater than Moses.

You can see the setup continuing in verses 3–6. The writer eventually says that Moses was faithful "in" **God's house**, whereas Christ is **faithful "over" God's house**.

There's a subtle but important distinction:

Moses = faithful servant in God's house.

Jesus = faithful Son over God's house.

And Hebrews will identify God's "house" with God's people.

So what's happening overall?

The writer is preparing his readers for a major argument:

"Don't go back from Christ to the old covenant and the figures who came before Him. The very people you revere—angels, Moses, priests, etc.—point toward someone greater: Jesus."

Hebrews has been building this case step by step:

Angels → Jesus is greater

Moses → Jesus is greater

Old priesthood → Jesus is greater

Old covenant → Jesus brings the greater covenant

Verses 3–4: The builder is greater than the house

"For this man was counted worthy of more glory than Moses..."

The “this man” is **Christ Jesus**.

The argument is essentially:

Moses belongs to God's house, but Jesus is the builder of God's house.

Think of it like this:

- A beautiful building deserves honor.
- But the **architect/builder** deserves greater honor because the building exists because of his work.

So Hebrews is not saying Moses was unimportant. Moses had tremendous honor as God's faithful servant. But Jesus occupies a fundamentally different position.

Then verse 4 says:

“For every house is builded by some man; but he that built all things is God.”

This brings the argument to its ultimate level: **God is the ultimate builder of everything.**

And because Hebrews has already established that Jesus is uniquely associated with God's creative work (see Hebrews 1:2), the writer is pointing toward Christ's divine status.

“House” can mean a physical building, but it can also mean a **household/family/people**. That becomes important in verse 6.

Verse 5: Moses was faithful—but as a servant

“And Moses verily was faithful in all his house, as a servant...”

The writer goes out of his way to **affirm Moses**.

Moses was faithful.

But notice his position:

Moses = servant.

His job was to faithfully serve within God's house and bear witness to what God would reveal later:

“for a testimony of those things which were to be spoken after”

In other words, Moses' ministry was **pointing forward**.

The things God gave through Moses—the Law, the tabernacle, the priesthood, sacrifices, etc.—were not the final destination. They were testimony or preparation for things that would be revealed more fully through Christ.

So Moses is faithful, but his role is **preventive**.

Verse 6: Christ is Son over the house

Now comes the major contrast:

"But Christ as a son over his own house..."

Moses is **a servant in the house**.

Christ is **the Son over the house**.

That's the key distinction.

It's like the difference between:

"This person faithfully works in the family business"

and

"This person is the owner's Son and has authority over the family business."

The writer isn't diminishing Moses. He's explaining why Jesus deserves greater glory.

And then comes the remarkable statement:

"whose house are we"

The house is God's people.

So the argument has moved from a physical "house" to a spiritual household:

God's house = God's people.

And Hebrews says that **we are that house**.

But then there's an important condition

"if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end."

This is where Hebrews begins moving from **doctrine to warning**.

The writer has just said:

Jesus is greater than Moses.

Therefore, don't merely recognize that intellectually. **Hold firmly to your confidence in Christ.**

"Hold fast" carries the belief of **remaining firmly attached rather than abandoning what you have embraced.**

And this sets up the rest of Hebrews 3.

The writer is going to use Israel's experience in the wilderness as a warning. Israel had Moses. They experienced God's works. They were brought out of Egypt. **But many of them failed to remain faithful and consequently did not enter God's rest.**

So the argument becomes:

Moses was faithful as a servant. Christ is faithful as God's Son. We are Christ's house if we continue holding firmly to our confidence and hope in Him. Therefore, don't repeat Israel's wilderness failure by turning away.

The whole passage in one picture

Moses	Jesus
Faithful	Faithful
Servant	Son
In God's house	Over God's house
Bears witness to what was coming	Brings the promised reality
Greater than ordinary servants	Greater than Moses

Hebrews 3: Jesus is greater than Moses.

Hebrews 3 onward: Therefore, don't harden your heart and turn away from Him.

II. The Teachings of Jesus — Matthew 7:24–29 (KJV)

Teaching Prompt: Ask learners to identify what both builders share and what distinguishes them. Emphasize that the storm reveals whether Jesus' words have been heard only or put into practice.

²⁴ Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:

²⁵ And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.

²⁶ And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand:

²⁷ And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.

²⁸ And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at his doctrine:

²⁹ For he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.

1. Exactly—and this passage from **Matthew 7:24–29** connects remarkably well with what you were just reading in Hebrews 3.

Jesus is finishing the **Sermon on the Mount**, and His point is not merely *"hear my teaching."* It's **hear + do**.

1. The two houses

Jesus gives two people who hear the same teaching:

- One **hears and does** what Jesus says.
- One **hears but does not do** what Jesus says.

Both build a house. Both apparently have something that looks like a house.

The difference is **the foundation**.

The wise man's house is:

"founded upon a rock"

The foolish man's house is:

"built ... upon the sand"

So the issue isn't whether you've **heard** Jesus.

Both people heard Him.

The issue is what they **do with what they've heard**.

That's a major theme in Matthew: genuine response to Jesus involves obedience, not merely exposure to His words.

2. The storm reveals the foundation

Notice something interesting:

The storm comes to both houses.

Jesus doesn't say:

"If you build on the rock, no storm will come."

Quite the opposite.

"The rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew..."

The difference is what happens **when the storm comes**.

The house founded on the rock remains standing.

The house founded on sand collapses.

So the picture isn't necessarily about avoiding suffering, difficulty, judgment, temptation, or trials. The storm **tests what the house is actually resting on**.

The foundation is invisible when everything is calm.

The storm exposes it.

3. What is the rock?

In the immediate context, Jesus Himself tells us what the "rock" means:

heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them

The rock is not merely *knowing about* Jesus.

It is **building your life upon His words by actually doing them.**

That's important because Jesus has spent Matthew 5–7 giving very concrete commands:

- reconcile with your brother
- don't nurture hatred
- remain faithful in marriage
- love your enemies
- pray for those who persecute you
- give without seeking applause
- forgive
- don't live for earthly treasure
- don't be consumed by anxiety
- seek God's kingdom
- don't hypocritically judge others
- treat others as you want to be treated

Then He says, essentially:

"Now, what are you going to do with what you've heard?"

4. "Great was the fall of it"

The language becomes deliberately dramatic:

"and great was the fall of it."

Why "great"?

Because the foolish man didn't merely build a bad house.

He heard the truth and chose not to act upon it.

The tragedy is that he had access to the same words.

He heard Jesus.

He knew what Jesus said.

But his life wasn't built upon those words.

5. And then comes verse 28–29

This is one of the most interesting parts:

“the people were astonished at his doctrine”

Why?

“For he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.”

Jesus wasn't presenting Himself merely as another interpreter of Scripture.

Notice how He repeatedly says throughout the Sermon:

“I say unto you...”

Not merely:

“Moses said...”

Jesus speaks with **His own authority**.

And that makes verse 24 much more significant.

He doesn't say:

“Whoever hears these sayings and does them...”

He says:

“these sayings of mine.”

That's a striking claim.

And now connect this back to Hebrews 3

This is where your two passages fit together beautifully.

Hebrews says:

Moses was faithful as a servant in God's house.

Christ is faithful as the Son over God's house.

And Matthew presents Jesus saying:

Build your house on what / say.

So there's a common thread:

The question is not simply whether you have heard God's message. The question is whether your life is built upon it.

Hebrews 3:6 says:

“whose house are we, if we hold fast...”

Matthew 7 says:

“heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them...”

Both passages move from **hearing** → **perseverance** → **action**.

And then Hebrews immediately warns against what happens when people **hear but harden their hearts**.

So you could almost put the progression like this:

Hear Christ → trust Christ → obey Christ → hold fast to Christ.

The foundation isn't tested while everything is peaceful.

The storm reveals what the house was actually founded upon.

4. Key Themes for Adults

Teaching Prompt: Pause after each theme and invite one practical example from adult life. Keep the discussion focused on attention, identity, loyalty to Christ, and perseverance.

A. Faithfulness Requires Focus

Adults juggle responsibilities, pressures, and distractions. Hebrews reminds us that spiritual drift happens subtly when we stop intentionally considering Jesus.

B. Identity as God's Household

We are not visitors in God's presence—we are His family. This identity shapes how we live, serve, and endure.

C. Christ's Superiority

Honoring Christ above all other influences—tradition, culture, personal preference—is essential for spiritual maturity.

D. Perseverance

Holding fast to confidence and hope is the evidence of belonging to God’s household. Perseverance is not perfection; it is consistent trust.

5. Discussion Questions

Teaching Prompt: Encourage honest but concise responses. Use follow-up questions such as “What makes you say that?” and “How could this truth shape a decision this week?”

1. What does it look like in your daily life to “fix your thoughts on Jesus”?
2. Why do you think the author compares Jesus to Moses for this audience?
3. How does understanding Christ as both Apostle and High Priest strengthen your faith?
4. What challenges make it difficult to “hold firmly” to your confidence and hope?
5. In what ways can our church community help one another remain faithful?

6. Life Application

Teaching Prompt: Give participants a quiet moment to choose one action they will take this week. Invite them to write when, where, and how they will follow through.

A. Practice Intentional Focus

Choose one daily rhythm—morning prayer, Scripture meditation, gratitude journaling—to center your thoughts on Christ.

B. Reaffirm Your Identity

Write down three truths about being part of God’s household:

- I belong to God.
- I am loved and led by Christ.
- I am called to faithfulness.

C. Evaluate Competing Loyalties

Identify anything that competes with Christ for your attention or devotion—work, relationships, fear, comfort—and surrender it to Him.

D. Encourage Someone

Faithfulness grows in community. Send a message, pray with someone, or share a Scripture to strengthen another believer.

7. Closing Reflection

Teaching Prompt: Read the reflection slowly, then ask, “What truth about Christ will you carry with you?” Close with a brief prayer for faithful hearing, obedience, and perseverance.

Christ is not simply part of God’s story—He is the builder of the house, the center of the calling, and the anchor of our hope. Adults in every season of life need this reminder: faithfulness is possible when our focus is fixed on Jesus.