



The First Button

<https://wels.net/family-devotion/fd20260715/>

By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as a wise builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should build with care. For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 3:10-11

Have you ever gotten dressed in the dark? Maybe you started buttoning your shirt and everything seemed fine at first. But when you got to the last button, something looked funny. One side was higher than the other! You turn on a light and discover the problem. The very first button was in the wrong hole. Because the first button was wrong, every other button ended up wrong too. One little mistake at the beginning changed everything at the end.

Paul was dealing with a problem at the church in Corinth. Some people were arguing about which teacher was most important. Was it Paul, who started the church? Was it Apollos, who helped teach the people afterward? Paul reminded them that they were all working together for God. One person planted the seed. Another person watered it. But God was the one making it grow.

Then Paul shared something even more important. Every Christian is building on the exact same foundation: Jesus Christ. A foundation is the part of a building that everything else sits on. If the foundation cracks, the whole building is in trouble. But if the foundation is strong, the building can stand firm. Jesus is the strong foundation for the church.

Jesus is also the strong foundation for our family. Sometimes it's easy to build our lives on other things. We might think, "I'll be happy if I make the team." Or "Everything will be okay if I get a good grade." Or "I need everyone to like me." Those things aren't bad. Sports, school, and friendships are gifts from God. But they make terrible foundations. What happens if you don't make the team? What happens if you get a bad grade? What happens if a friend says something hurtful? If those things are your foundation, your whole life can start to feel shaky like it's going to crash down!

Our foundation is already laid for us in Jesus. That means your value doesn't depend on how well you play, how smart you are, or what other people think about you. Your value comes from Jesus. When Jesus died and rose again, he forgave every sin. He made you part of God's family. He promised to love you forever.

(Continued on Next Page)

When our family prays together, reads God's Word together, and reminds each other about God's forgiveness, we are building on a rock-solid foundation. It's a "first-button" issue: When Jesus is our foundation, we know how the rest of our story lines up. No matter what difficult days come, Jesus will hold us up now until he invites us to our forever home in heaven.

Now THAT'S a really good ending!

Questions for Consider

- What happened when the first button was put in the wrong hole?
- Who does Paul say is the foundation of the church?
- What are some things kids your age sometimes think are the most important things in life?
- Why can sports, grades, friends, or hobbies make us happy but still be poor foundations?
- Imagine two families. One builds everything around success and achievements. The other builds everything around Jesus. What differences might you notice when both families go through a difficult time?
- Look at the practical examples mentioned at the end: praying together, reading God's Word, and reminding each other of forgiveness. Which of these do you think our family is doing well, and which one could we work on to make our foundation stronger?

!