



## Violin Lesson

My husband and I decided we would check on the value of an old violin we had when we saw the name “Strateveous” on the back. Arriving at the place of business to learn the value of our prize, I was almost embarrassed by the high expectation I held in my mind.

Presenting our valuable instrument to the man who appraised violins, my dream went out the door. He told us it was an imitation; he had a basement full of violins like it.

Though we knew we had been told the truth, we were disappointed. When we returned home, the violin was placed back on a shelf where it sits today.

Observing the valueless violin one day a forgotten lesson played in my mind.

Placing our hopes on things, building our trust on what we see, we are bound to be disappointed. Where do we find lasting values in times when life is good and when our lives are tipsy-turvy? The pandemic has brought us away from our normal ways and things.

On what or Who can we build our lives upon? What a blessing God’s Son, Jesus told us how to build our lives securely. In His Word, the Bible, His wise words are found in Matthew 7:26-28. He said with love:

“All who listen to My instructions and follow them are wise: like a man who builds his house on solid rock. Though the rain comes in torrents and the floods rise and the storm winds beat against his house, it won’t collapse, for it is built on a rock.

But those who hear My instructions and ignore them are foolish, like a man who builds his house on sand. For when the rains and floods come, and storm winds beat against his house, it will fall with a mighty crash.”

What a valuable lesson played in my heart and mind from the valueless violin’s appraisal.

Choosing to follow Jesus' teachings is wise because His words last forever (Matthew 24:35). Help me, Lord, to choose Your true and lasting ways always. I ask You this in Jesus' precious and timeless name.