

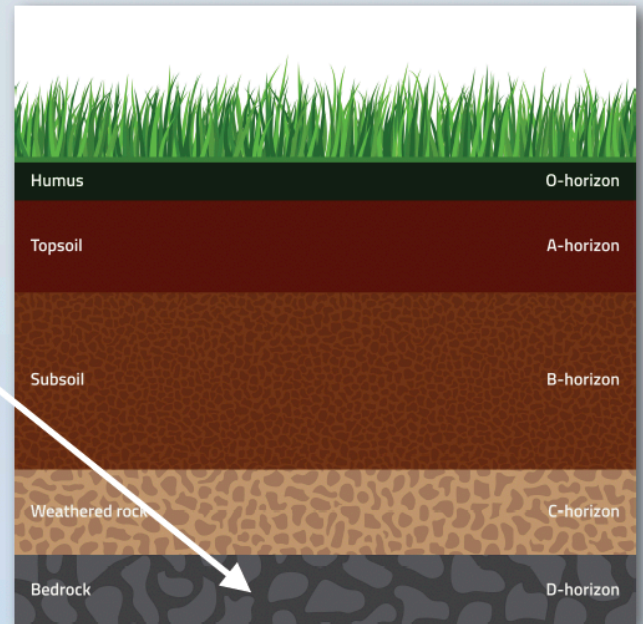
# SCRIPTURE TALK

**“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.”**

Matthew 7:25

When we look at a building, we cannot see its *foundation*. We see only what sits on the surface and rises, sometimes, high above the ground. To keep the building steady and safe, the foundation has to be dug deep into the earth. If we dig deep enough, we eventually reach a layer of solid rock, called *bedrock*. Supports that are dug into bedrock form a strong and sturdy foundation.

But when a foundation is dug into clay or sand, those materials can shift, and the building will not stay strong. For example, the **Federal Building** in Chicago, which was built on soft clay soil in 1880, had to be destroyed before it was 20 years old.



450 meters

150 meters

Builders have learned a lot since the 1800s, and processes have been developed since then to make foundations much stronger. But, it is generally true that the taller the building, the deeper the foundation. The **Petronas Towers** in Malaysia (twin towers on the left) rise about 450 meters above the ground, and their foundations extend about 150 meters (500 feet) beneath the ground. That means that about  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the height of the building that you can see above the ground is how much of the building's foundation exists below the ground. Knowing we have a strong foundation helps us to feel secure.