

KINGDOM COME

Seek First

Matthew 13:44-46

SEEK FIRST THE KINGDOM

The kingdom of God is the rule and reign of God.

The kingdom of God is life as it's _____ to be, where _____ is lived out.

“But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”

Matthew 6:33

A HIDDEN TREASURE & A VALUABLE PEARL

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.

Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.”

Matthew 13:44-46

The _____ is worth the _____.

TREASURE HUNT

“But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ - the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith.”
Philippians 3:7-9

How to experience life as God intends it to be:

1. Pursue Christ as your greatest _____.
2. Consider what you need to _____ in order to lay hold of Christ's kingdom in your life and our world.

MEMORY VERSE

“But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”

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Questions based on sermon from October 27, 2024

Getting to Know Me

1. Do you go on treasure hunts (garage sales, shopping sprees, geocaching, metal detector hunts, etc.)? What has been your favorite find?
2. Have you ever lost something of great value? What did you do to get it back?

Digging Deeper

3. What most resonated with you from the message this past Sunday?
4. Read Matthew 13:44-46. How does the word “joy” in verse 44 speak to you, especially in regard to the high price he was willing to pay to get this treasure?
5. Read Philippians 3:7-11. What does it mean to ‘consider everything a loss’ in order to gain Christ? What’s the trade-off?
6. Of what you know of God and his kingdom, why do you believe following Jesus is worth the cost? What has it cost you? What are you afraid it might cost you in the future?
7. Hebrews 12:2 says that Jesus, “for the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.” What was “the joy set before him”? How did it help him endure the cross?

8. How does Jesus’ own life embody these parables: giving up everything to gain a treasure?

9. Read Psalm 145. Choose a scribe from your group to write down the character traits of God found in these verses. Discuss them. How do they enliven your vision of having God as your greatest treasure?

Where Do I Go from Here?

10. Phil made the comment on Sunday that it’s not so much about ‘getting into the kingdom’ as ‘getting the kingdom *into you*.’ What do you think is the difference?
11. In Matthew 13:44-46, the two seekers sold everything, holding nothing back for the chance to have the treasure. What area(s) of your life is God asking you to lay down or give up so that you can lay hold of his kingdom and righteousness in your life?
12. Spend time in quiet meditation. Ask the Holy Spirit to impress on your heart areas you are holding back from God. Reread the verses found here, and ask for God’s help to turn over these areas to Him.
13. Memorize Matthew 6:33: “*Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.*”

Prayer: God, knowing you are beyond measure. You are my treasure. Help me to submit my life to you in every way. Thank you for the abundance of love, forgiveness, and grace you shower on me. Amen.

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The price is worth the prize.

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