



Pastor Cecil Whitton | September 23, 2018

As Christ followers, we have been ENTRUSTED with the most VALUABLE resource of all.

^{13b} [Jesus] asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?”... ¹⁶ Simon Peter replied, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church... – **Matthew 16:13b,16-18a**

We must decide what to do with it:

1. HIDE it.

⁵⁶ Then a servant girl, seeing him as he sat in the light and looking closely at him, said, “This man also was with him.” ⁵⁷ But he denied it, saying, “Woman, I do not know him.” – **Luke 22:56-57**

2. HURT it.

¹⁰ Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant and cut off his right ear. (The servant's name was Malchus.) ¹¹ So Jesus said to Peter, “Put your sword into its sheath; shall I not drink the cup that the Father has given me?” – **John 18:10-11**

²³ But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.” – **Matthew 16:23**

3. SHARE it.

¹⁴ But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them... ³⁶ “...God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.” – **Acts 2:14a,36b**

NOTES FOR FURTHER STUDY

REFLECTION

- Why is the Gospel message precious to you?
- What are some examples of times you have hidden, hurt, or shared the Gospel?

DIGGING DEEPER

- Read **1 Corinthians 15:1-11**. In your own words, what is the Gospel?
- Read **1 Thessalonians 2:2-13,19-20**.
 - What does it mean to have “boldness in our God to declare... the Gospel” (**v. 2**)?
 - What are some of the “conflicts” or challenges that we face in sharing the Gospel with others?
 - For what reasons did Paul have boldness to share the Gospel (**v. 3-4**)? Do these reasons give *you* boldness?
 - What attitude should we have toward others as we share the Gospel with them (**v. 4-7**)? How do you know if you have that attitude?
 - What else should we share with others while sharing the Gospel (**v. 8**)? What does that mean?
 - In addition to what this passage has to say about sharing the Gospel with unbelievers, what does it also tell us about how we should treat fellow believers (**v. 9-12**)?
 - When we share the Gospel with unbelievers or speak truth to fellow believers, this passage says that the Word of God is “at work” (**v. 13**). What does that mean?
 - What will be “our hope or joy or crown of boasting before our Lord Jesus at his coming” (**v. 19-20**)? Is this your attitude? How does this encourage or challenge you?
 - How do the attitudes and actions described in this passage reflect those of Jesus during his earthly life?