



Welcome: What is your favorite food & who is the special person you prefer to make it for you?

Worship: Listen to *Treasure* by Desperation Band.

Word: Read *Matthew* 13:44-52 (NKJV)

- 1) The discoverer of the hidden treasure sells all he has in order to secure the legal rights to the field in which the treasure is buried (v.44). In what ways does this depict the manner in which Jesus secured the "legal rights" to the kingdom of heaven?
- 2) The Ark of the Covenant was the greatest 'treasury' of the Old Testament kingdom. What were the three 'treasures' it contained (see Hebrews 9:4) and what does each object symbolize?
- 3) The merchant has to be able to appraise pearls in order to determine when he has found one of 'great value' (v. 45 & 46). What are the potential consequences of using a false value system when appraising the wisdom offered to us by the world around us? What was the value system 'treasured' in the Ark?
- 4) In v. 47-50 Jesus repeats that God alone reserves the right to judge people. Why is it important for us to judge the message but not the messenger? What was the tool used for dividing & gathering stored in the treasury of the Ark?
- 5) Jesus encourages us to follow the method of Scribes who studied Scripture daily (v.52). What was the daily meal stored in the treasury of the Ark? What was the consequence of not gathering this Heavenly food daily? How does this serve as a warning about the need to seek God in His Word daily?

Witness: What is one value (moral, principle, standard) from God's Word that is being challenged in your own social circles? Study God's Word and write a concise response that you can use/share the next time the issue is raised in conversation. Be careful to judge the message based on Scriptural standards but NOT to judge the messenger.