

## A. SERMON SLIDES

Slide 1:

A SHORT STORY ON INVESTMENT

Matthew 13:44-46 (ESV)

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.”

Slide 2:

Possible Differences

1) Accident (non-seeker) vs. Purposeful (seeker)

Slide 3:

2) Poor vs. Rich

Slide 4:

3) Kingdom is treasure vs. Kingdom is merchant  
(Israel vs. Church?)

Slide 5:

What Are The Simple Similarities?

Slide 6:

1) Spiritual Treasure is Always Hidden in Plain Sight (the ordinary)  
2) When Discovered it will Totally Transform the Finder of the Treasure

Slide 7:

Kingdom Treasure Hidden in Ordinary People

Slide 8:

1 Corinthians 1:26-28 (ESV)

...not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are...

Slide 9:

Kingdom Treasure Hidden in an Ordinary Message in an Ordinary Savior

Slide 10:

If you have the desire to move past the Gospel to deeper waters, you haven't seen the Gospel

Slide 11:

1 Peter 1:12 (ESV)

It was revealed to them that they were serving not themselves but you, in the things that have now been announced to you through those who preached the good news to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven, *things into which angels long to look*.

Slide 12:

Assess the value mentally, appropriate the value emotionally, live out the value in total transformation.

Slide 13:

If there is something wrong with the quality of your faith, it is because there is something wrong with the object of your faith.

Slide 14:

If anyone (of no value) is not willing to give up all for Someone (of ultimate value), we must not see that the One (of ultimate value) gave up all for us (of no value).

## **B. GROUP DISCUSSION**

- 1) Read the text and talk about what you see and would understand about what Jesus was saying to His disciples.
- 2) What are some of the differences and similarities in the two parables that you have found?
- 3) Talk about the concept that the Kingdom was hidden in a way that anyone could find it. Why was that important for Jesus to communicate?
- 4) Have you ever found or experienced something REALLY valuable (other than Jesus) that was right in front of you, and that maybe others could not have seen or experienced?
- 5) Why was it so easy for both individuals to go and sell "all they had" for these treasures?
- 6) What is the difference between a transactional faith and one that is responding to the Gospel? Have you struggled at times with earning vs responding? Why do you think this is a process for so many of us?
- 7) Prayer and praise