

SEQUOIA NOTES

Today's Sequoia Message...

Treasure Sacred Things

With Ryan Dawson - Lead Pastor
September 1, 2024



Matthew 7:6 (NIV) "Do not give dogs what is sacred; do not throw your pearls to pigs. If you do, they may trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces."

Matthew 7:6 is a Biblical Chiasm (kai-azim)

Here is how it works in Matthew 7:6

- A Do not give dogs what is sacred;
- B do not throw pearls to pigs
- B¹ if you do, they may trample them under their feet,
- A¹ and turn and tear you to pieces.

- **Treasure the Gospel of the Kingdom.**

Matthew 13:44-46 (NLT) "The Kingdom of Heaven is like a treasure that a man discovered hidden in a field. In his excitement, he hid it again and sold everything he owned to get enough money to buy the field. ⁴⁵ "Again, the Kingdom of Heaven is like a merchant on the lookout for choice pearls. ⁴⁶ When he discovered a pearl of great value, he sold everything he owned and bought it!"

What is the Gospel (Good News) of the Kingdom?

"The 'gospel' is the good news that through Christ the power of God's kingdom has entered history to renew the whole world. When we believe and rely on Jesus' work and record (rather than ours) for our relationship to God, that kingdom power comes upon us and begins to work through us... Through the person and work of Jesus Christ, God fully accomplishes salvation for us, rescuing us from judgment for sin into fellowship with him, and then restores the creation in which we can enjoy our new life together with him forever." Tim Keller

"The gospel is the good news that God, who is more holy than we can imagine, looked upon with compassion, people, who are more sinful than we would possibly admit, and sent Jesus into history to establish his Kingdom and reconcile people and the world to himself. Jesus, whose love is more extravagant than we can measure, came to sacrificially die for us so that, by His death and resurrection, we might gain through His grace what the Bible defines as new and eternal life." Ed Stetzer

- **Share the Gospel of the Kingdom with spiritual sensitivity.**

Matthew 7:6 (NLT) "Don't waste what is holy on people who are unholy. Don't throw your pearls to pigs! They will trample the pearls, then turn and attack you."

John 5:17 (NLT) "But Jesus replied, "My Father is always working, and so am I."

Irresistible Evangelism Diagram – Doug Pollock

"Evangelism is joining in on the conversation the Holy Spirit is having with someone." Shalla Visser – Alpha Canada

"Look where God is working and join Him in that work." Henry Blackaby

- **Begin close to home.**

Big Idea: As you treasure the Gospel you will share the Gospel.



Sequoia Impact Communities are where we
live out our identity as a
Family of Servants on Mission.

To get plugged in email:

impactcommunities@sequoiachurch.org

Treasure Sacred Things?

#21 of 26 - September 1, 2024

- 1) What has God been teaching you through the Sermon on the Mount?
- 2) Read Matthew 7:1-6. What is the **Context** for these passages? Who is the writer and the recipients? Where does this fit in the book as a whole?
- 3) **Observation:** What “jumps out” in these passages? What interesting details do you observe? What questions does it raise for you? How does v. 1-5 connect with v. 6?
- 4) **Meaning:** Read and reflect on v. 6. What was the meaning for the original recipients? What meaning is inferred in this for us?
- 5) What does Jesus mean by “dogs” and “pigs”? What does he mean by “sacred” and “pearls”?
- 6) Read Matthew 13:44-46. How does this connect to what Jesus is referencing in Matthew 7:6? How would you describe the Gospel of the Kingdom of God?
- 7) Review the definitions on the Gospel from Tim Keller and Ed Stetzer. What resonates with you and what questions does this surface about the Kingdom?
- 8) In what way is Jesus encouraging his disciples to be spiritual sensitive as they share the Gospel? What implications does that have for disciples as they share?
- 9) **Application:** What steps is God asking you to take in light of His Word?
- 10) Take time as individuals and as an Impact Community to review the [Iresistible Evangelism diagram](#) and discuss this in relation to sharing the Gospel with people in your life? What “clubs” do you need to use to help people move towards Jesus?
- 11) In what ways can you “Begin at Home” as you share the Gospel of the Kingdom?



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