

Main Street Church - Life Group Guide

Series: *Tell Me a Story* Message: **Part 3 – Hidden Treasure**

November 12, 2017



Connect & Check-In (20min)

*Welcome & Opening Prayer

> Invite 1 Group Member to open in Prayer.

*ICEBREAKER – In Remembrance

> What are 1-2 ways that you or your Family have served or been impacted by the Wars of the past & present?

[eg. WW1. WW2. Korean War. Vietnam. Cold War.. Iraq. Afghanistan. Africa, Peacekeeping...]

*CHECK-IN - *encourage one another & build one another up.*

: One of the ways we can do this in Life Group is by encouraging one another in our personal/devoted time with God.

- sharing our learning, experiences & struggles from this key area of our lives.

> How do you 'feed' or 'exercise' yourself spiritually between Sundays?

> Do you have a reading/devotional plan for this week, or the month of November? Share...

Sunday Message Feedback (40min)

*Speaker: Pastor Shawn Vandop.

1. TREASURE HUNT

- What is your favorite Treasure-Hunt story or movie? (*Treasure Island, Pirates of the Caribbean, Indiana Jones...*)
- What's the greatest/most-valuable thing that you've ever found?
- If you could go on a Treasure Hunt or Archaeological Dig anywhere in the world, where would you go?
- Why do you think people in ancient times hid their valuables/treasure in hidden/secret locations, away from their main residence? How would you protect your treasure nowadays?

2. Sunday Message Feedback

Parables 101 – *A Parable in the Greek means to "come alongside."* Jesus used stories to come alongside His truth.

*What is 1 thing that impacted you from Sunday's Message?

3. Read [Matthew 13:44](#) – *Parable of the Hidden Treasure.*

- How does JESUS bridge the physical world with the spiritual in this parable?
What is the "Kingdom of Heaven" that Jesus speaks about?
[*Note: this parable is not about/suggesting *purchasing one's salvation.*]
- What's the significance of the Treasure being *Hidden*?
Why did the man bury the treasure and buy the field, instead of just taking the treasure?
- How is the Treasure a source of *Joy & Challenge*?

4. Questions to Consider: Pastor Shawn shared three questions that we should ask in regards to this parable.

A. DO YOU UNDERSTAND THE VALUE OF WHAT YOU HAVE?

*Why might we struggle with taking the Gospel for granted? (Who Jesus is and what He did for us)

*Why is it so easy to become comfortable with what Jesus did for us? Discuss.

B. DO YOU SEE THE CHRISTIAN LIFE AS SOMETHING YOU LOSE OR GAIN?

*Read [Matthew 6:19-21](#)

*How can we begin to live more intentionally for what gain in eternity?

*What would that look like practically for your everyday life? How can we encourage each other in this?

C. WHERE DO YOU LOOK RIDICULOUS IF THERE IS NO TREASURE?

*The man in the parable would have looked ridiculous to those around him for selling everything he had to buy a field. Where in your life do you look ridiculous because of your passion for God's kingdom?

[eg. Your commitment to serve or connect in Christian community? Your generosity?

Your willingness to forgive? Your commitment to integrity/purity? Other...?]

* Read [1 Corinthians 15:12-19](#)

What are some other areas that people may look at you and think you are ridiculous because of the Treasure of God's Kingdom? (eg. faith in Christ and the Resurrection)

5. GOD'S TREASURE – Read [John 3:16](#) (& remember the 3 Parables of the Lost in Luke 15 from last week)

*Have you ever thought of yourself as God's treasure? How would this week's parable speak to that truth? Discuss.

6. COUNTER CULTURAL

*How are the *Kingdom-Treasure* principles of Jesus counter-cultural for us today?

7. Read [Philippians 3:7-9](#)

*How does Paul's mindset and decision echo the parable of the Hidden Treasure & encourage us today?

Application & Prayer (20min)

REFLECT: [Allow for 1-2 min of quiet personal reflection]

*Jesus, Thank you for treasuring me...

*Jesus, Which *Earthly-Treasures* are drawing my attention and resources away from your Kingdom?

Invite the Group to Pray personal sentence (popcorn) prayers for each of these segments.

[Allow 4-5 mins for each segment. Silence/Quiet-reflection is ok.]

P : Praise & thank God for the treasures He has blessed us with.

R : Repent of any earthly-treasure hunts that have taken you off course and away from your pursuit of Jesus.

A : Ask the Holy Spirit to help you pursue the challenge & joy of God's treasures.

Y : Yield (Surrender) your treasures/decisions/opportunities to His will and ways for this coming week.

Bonus Resources (click the links below)

Challenge: [Lookup & Read through the PARABLES of JESUS in November.](#)

Painting: [The Parable of the Hidden Treasures – by Rembrandt.](#)

Video: [The Gospel of the Kingdom](#) (The Bible Project) [Read Scripture Series: Matthew Ch.1-13](#) (The Bible Project)

Book: [The Parables Of Jesus: A Guide to Understanding and Applying the Stories Jesus Taught.](#) - R.T. Kendall

Announcements

BAPTISM SUNDAY

Sun. November 19. During our morning Services (9am & 10:45am). www.mainstreetchurch.ca/baptism

This will be a full morning of Worship & Baptisms!

PRAYER SUMMIT

Sun. November 26. 6pm-7:30pm. Main Street Chapel.

Worship-Prayer-Communion

MAIN STREET WOMEN: *Coffee & Conversation Event – Peace on Earth*

Sat. December 2. 10am-12pm – Main Street Church Conference Hall/Café. Tickets are \$5 at Guest Services.

CHRISTMAS TALES – Outreach Event

Fri. December 15. 7pm – Main Street Church Auditorium. Tickets are \$15 (or \$90 to reserve a table of six).

Include coffee/tea & Homemade Pie! Seating is limited and tickets are selling fast!

Available at Guest Services on Sunday or through the Church Office (Mon-Thurs).

CHRISTMAS HOPE D-DAY – Christmas Hamper Deliver Day.

Sat. December 16. 9am Start. Main Street Chapel. *100 Hampers!

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Sun. December 24. (No Morning Services)

*2:30pm *4pm *5:30pm