Sermon Title: The Kingdom's Worth

Date: 07-06-2025

Pray and Read the Text together

• **Sermon Text**: Matthew 13:44-46

Some Possible Discussion Questions

- 1. If someone were to look at how you spend your time, money, and attention, what would they say you value most?
- 2. Can you think of examples (real or fictional) where someone gave up everything for something they believed was worth it? (other than the current parable)
- 3. In verse 44, the man "in his joy" sells all he has to buy the field. Why do you think joy, and not obligation, is highlighted here? Have you ever felt such joy?
- 4. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "we will do what we most long to do." Why?

Passage Context

• This is #5 in our Summer series walking through the parables.

Sermon Introduction

- "Do what makes you feel happy" vs. "Man's chief end is to glorify God and enjoy him forever." Both phrases express the shared understanding that affections (happiness and joy) lead to volition (action).
- Jesus teaches that both good and bad flow from our hearts (the seat of affection). Luke 6:45
- For someone who has faithfully considered the value of the kingdom, they give both their hear that their hands for the sake of acquiring and securing it.

Sermon Outline

Worthy of our Affection

- "Affections" are those inclinations of the heart or soul which lead, direct, and effect the will to move in accordance to those inclinations... In short, unless coerced, forced, or manipulated, we will do what we most long to do.
- What compelled the man to sell all that he has, to buy the field where the treasure was located, is joy. (verse 44). He does not begrudge the cost of the kingdom.
- The true and right response of the believer to the kingdom is joy. This is why at Milestone we constantly assert that we do things for God's glory and our joy.
- The true and faithful Christian life is expressed in joy. Jesus came and taught so that his joy may be in us, and that our joy may be full (John 15:11).
- In joy, those who have ears to hear and eyes to see recognize that only in Jesus is perfect and eternal truth, goodness, and beauty found.
- In as much as we behold, in Jesus and his kingdom, truth, goodness, and beauty so will we be joyfully compelled to sell everything for the sake of acquiring and securing refuge in the King and his kingdom.

Worthy of our Action

- In both parables, everything is sold for the sake of the kingdom.
- Kingdom entrance is for those who joyfully and faithfully act by dying to self and "selling" all that they
 have.

- In comparison to earthly possessions and riches, the King and his kingdom far surpass anything of this world. Philippians 3:7-8 and Luke 12:33-34.
- But what does it look like to sell everything for the kingdom? It will cost:
 - Students –the acceptance of their peers
 - Singles dreams of the future
 - Marrieds appearance and pretensions
 - Elders time, routines, preferences, comforts.

Sermon Conclusion

- We value the King and his kingdom when we count the cost and are willing to sell everything, in joy, for the sake of being with him.
- The point for everyone, no matter what category you might fall on, is that if you are going to follow Christ, you must remember that you are not your own, but that you and I, joyfully, belong to Christ. And as such, we sell everything for the sake of the King and his kingdom... We do not store up treasures in this world but in the world to come. We joyfully sell our time, talents, treasures, acceptance, future, appearance, and comforts for the sake of the kingdom.

#Sermon Link

Upcoming Events:

- Every Sunday No prayer or youth group until the fall
- Back to School Drive June and July
- **VBA** July 14-18 (at Elmwood)
- Summer Palooza July 20 at Natick campus
- Meal Train sign-ups
- Please update your groups info in planning center

Next Sunday's text: Matthew 21:28–32; Theme: The Two Sons: Law, License, Love