



Life Guide

applying God's Word to life

How Valuable is the Kingdom of Heaven? September 22-24, 2018

(Matthew 13:44-46) ⁴⁴The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.

⁴⁵*Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls.*

⁴⁶*When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it."*

1. When you see an advertisement that makes an astounding claim, how likely are you to believe it? Why are some people skeptical? Which Bible teachings are most challenging for you to believe?

2. Lots of passages, especially, 1 Cor. 4:20 "The kingdom of God is not a matter of talk but of power," make it clear that the kingdom of God/heaven refers to God's ACTIVITY, what he does through the gospel. What are some things God does through the good news of Jesus?

3. For further study: Look at the other parables Jesus tells in Matt. 13. What else can you learn about the kingdom of heaven?

4. What does Jesus teach about the kingdom in Matt. 13:44-46?

5. Make a list of things people consider the most valuable. Which one(s) would be hardest for you to give up in exchange for the kingdom?

6. Imagine Jesus asks to examine your calendar/day planner, your checkbook, your priorities, the things you think to encourage yourself, or a list of your greatest worries. Which would you be scariest to let him see? Which would best indicate that you value the kingdom of heaven most? Which would indicate that your priorities are messed up?

7. "I do believe. Help me overcome my unbelief." (Mk. 9:49) Read Rom. 10:17, Eph. 3:16, Isa. 55:10-11. How does God answer our prayer?

8. What is the good news the God's word says about Jesus? (The sermon used Mt 10:28; Mt 5:48; Rev 21:4; 1 Pet 1:18; Rom 5:8.)

9. What are some ways your outward life would look observably different if you perfectly prioritized the good news of Jesus as the most valuable thing in the world?

10. What are some ways your inner life (motivation, self-talk, outlook on life) would look imperceptibly different if you perfectly prioritized the good news of Jesus as the most valuable thing in the world?