

"The 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. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it. Matthew 13:44-46 (NIV)

No Greater Treasure

There is no greater treasure than coming to know and love you. There is nothing that has my closer attention than wanting to live my life with and for you. There is no higher pursuit or greater desire within me than to live a life that is pleasing to you. I want to go where you guide. I want to do whatever you ask of me. My heart and mind and life are focused entirely on following and serving you. **That is very good.**

How have you come to focus your heart and mind and life on me? How did such a passionate desire to know and love me develop in you? Why am I the highest and by far the most important pursuit of your life? Why do you so strongly desire to do what is good and right and pleasing to me? That is a good question. None of this focus, this passionate desire or all out pursuit has come from me. I can take no credit for what you have developed, are developing and will continue to develop in my life. You have fanned the flames of my desire for you. I know that I love you because you first loved me. I know that I want to give myself fully to you because you gave yourself fully to me. You have allowed me to taste of your kindness and mercy and love. You have made it a joy for me to follow you wherever you lead me. You have made me to be thankful to do whatever you ask of me. **That is very good.**

I know that I am supposed to deny myself. I know that I am supposed to pour myself out in your service. I know that I am supposed to live with wholehearted devotion to you. At one time, I thought these acts would be painfully difficult and require herculean effort. I was sure that none of these efforts and this strength would ever be in me. But, your love for me and my love for you have made this the desire of my heart, the focus of my mind and the goal of my life. I want to do nothing else. I want to do nothing less. I want to be fully devoted to you. You are my treasure. There is nothing more valuable than living my life with and for you. I will have no regrets, make no retreats and hold nothing in reserve as I love, follow and serve you. **That will be very good.**

Lord, nothing is more valuable than living my life wholeheartedly with and for you. I love you with all my heart and mind and soul and strength. I give myself to you. I will joyfully follow you to wherever you lead me. I will thankfully do whatever you ask of me. Amen

Like A Treasure

Year _____ Week _____ Day _____ Date _____

Becoming Like Christ – Matthew 13:44-46

In Context: *Read Matthew 13*

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God's Word: ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

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Considering The Words: ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

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Praying The Scripture:

(What prayer from your heart will you write?)

Lord, nothing is more valuable than living my life wholeheartedly with and for you. I love you with all my heart and mind and soul and strength. I give myself to you. I will joyfully follow you to wherever you lead me. I will thankfully do whatever you ask of me. Amen

What It Means:

(What questions speak to your heart?) *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

Why is nothing more valuable than wholeheartedly living your life with and for God?

How does your life demonstrate that you are wholeheartedly devoted to loving, following and serving God?

How do you know for sure that you are fully devoted to loving, following and serving God?

What from your life have you set aside so that you could wholeheartedly pursue the life God has for you?

Why has it been no painful struggle and tremendous sacrifice for you to wholeheartedly follow and serve God?

How has God's love for you and yours for Him made it easy for you to be fully devoted to Him?

Where has the Lord lead you and what has He given you to do as you have loved, followed and served Him?

Living It Out:

(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)

Live your life wholeheartedly devoted to loving, following and serving God with all that is within you.

Seeing It Happen:

(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)

Have faith that nothing is more valuable than wholeheartedly living your life with and for God.

Get Ready To Share:

(What can you share with others from your heart?)

Share with another person or your small group how you are wholeheartedly loving, following and serving God.

Close With Prayer:

Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May you wholeheartedly live your life with and for God.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Lord, I will wholeheartedly live my life with and for you.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, how can I wholeheartedly live my life with and for you today?
