

SERIES: The Parables of Jesus

May 6, 2018

Reading Plan

Sunday-

Attend Church and take notes during the message.

Monday-

READ: **Matthew 13:44**

REFLECT: The man who finds the treasure is filled with joy as he goes to buy the field. How does the value of the “treasure” (the Kingdom of Heaven) help us remain joyful each day as we “sell everything we own”?

PRACTICE: Say a prayer to God in adoration of His mighty name. Ask God to aid you as you consider the infinite value of the kingdom of heaven.

TAKE IT FURTHER!

READ: **Psalms 119:33-40**

REFLECT: The Psalms are filled with guidance in meeting the challenges we face as we study the parable of the hidden treasure.

WATCH: To learn more about the Kingdom of God, check out this short video on Right Now Media from The Bible Project: [“The Gospel of the Kingdom”](#). (Don’t have a RNM account? Email sarah@whoisgrace.com to get started)

Tuesday-

READ: **Matthew 13:45-46**

REFLECT: How is this parable similar to the parable of the hidden treasure? How is it different?

PRACTICE: This question is part of the Life Group Questions this week. Take a moment to prepare to answer this question well. If you are not currently in a Life Group, talk to a friend or staff member at

church that is in a group and ask them why they are involved. Email sarah@whoisgrace.com with questions about Grace Life Groups.

TAKE IT FURTHER!

READ: **Jeremiah 29:12-13**

REFLECT: How should we be like the pearl merchant? What does it look like to seek God with all your heart?

READ: "One Thing Worth Everything" is a great article from desiringgod.org to help us reflect on this parable. Find it [here](#).

Wednesday-

READ: **Matthew 7:13-14**

REFLECT: The path that leads to life is narrow, and only a few find it. But, we know it is quite possible to find, and that it is worth selling everything we own- to fully surrender our lives to Him- in order to pass through the gate.

PRACTICE: The fact that you are engaged in this Reading Plan indicates that you are either seeking, or have found the Kingdom of God. Identify two or three actions to help you in your quest to walk with God. Example: Find and memorize a Bible verse that inspires you to stay focused on the value of God's Kingdom. (**Philippians 4:8-9**)

TAKE IT FURTHER!

REFLECT: Identify an area of your life where you have had difficulty living according to Scripture. Is there a person in your life that you can approach to assist you with this? Pray for direction in this area each time you pray.

Thursday-

READ: **Matthew 11:28-30**

REFLECT: These beautiful verses show us the reality of a life with the Father. You will never meet a person that is not weary, burdened with the struggles of life. We all need God's rest for our souls.

PRACTICE: Write down your burdens large and small. Now pray to God to show you that He is in control and able to take your yoke and help you to find rest for your soul.

TAKE IT FURTHER!

READ: Read **Philippians 4:4-7**

PRACTICE: This verse promises God's willingness to transcend all understanding to bring us peace. Write these on a notecard, use a Bible memory app, or ask a friend to help you memorize these words of truth.

Friday-

READ: **Luke 2:1-7** and **Micah 5:2**

REFLECT: In Luke 1-7, Luke references secular history as it relates to the birth of Christ. In Micah 5:2 we see a prophesy from long before the birth of Jesus that foretells of his coming from Bethlehem. These Scriptures offer evidence to the skeptic and support to the believer that God is real and that he came to this earth to offer us salvation.

As we consider the parables of the hidden treasure and the pearl, let us remember that God is real; He is with us and He is good. His kingdom is of greatest value and we are wise to "sell everything we own" to gain it.

PRACTICE: Praise God for the gift of salvation through Jesus Christ. Ask God to make Himself known to you each day through His Word and through prayer so that you are inspired to follow the Scriptures and live a life surrendered to Him.

TAKE IT FURTHER!

READ: **Matthew 6:9-13**

PRACTICE: Say the Lord's Prayer aloud and think about the meaning of each verse. Now pray it back to God in your own words. Use this prayer to help you continue learning to pray and to stay focused on your journey to walk with God.

Saturday-

Build Your Time with God Today!

Here are some suggestions:

- Review your time with God this week and spend a few minutes journaling a prayer: of praise for who He is, of confession for areas in your life needing His transformation, of thanks for what He has done and of needs for what He can do.
- Check out a Bible memorization app like Remember Me and start memorizing a key verse from this series.
- Check out The Bible Project resources [here](#) on Right Now Media to gain more insight and encouragement as you Find Your Chair. (If you don't yet have a RNM account, email sarah@whoisgrace.com to get started.)
- For an in-depth study of the Kingdom of God from Genesis to Revelation, check out "The Kingdom" by Michael Fletcher (free study guide available for download). Find it [here](#) on Right Now Media.