

COMMUNITY GROUP STUDY GUIDE

The Kingdom of Heaven is of Great Value

Matthew 13:44-46

APPLY // GENESIS 22:1-24

Main Idea: The Lord's blessings come through his providence and provision. When your faith is tested, trust the Lord to provide.

1. Discuss any moments when your faith has been tested. What was difficult for you in that moment/season? What doubts or temptations were you tempted to give into during that time?
2. In Genesis 22, briefly discuss how Abraham responded when tested. Why did Abraham respond in this manner?
3. What promises of the Lord sustain you in the midst of temptation, compelling you to obey even when it seems to not make sense?
4. How does knowing that Genesis 22 points us to Jesus—who was sacrificed for us and came back again on the third—help us trust the Lord to provide in moments hardship, confusion, doubt?
5. How would you use this text to encourage a brother or sister having a hard time trusting the Lord to provide?

OBSERVE & INTERPRET // MATTHEW 13:44-46

Main Idea: The kingdom of heaven is worth losing everything for.

1. **Read Matthew 13:44-46.** What are the similarities between both parables? How do they differ?
2. How does Jesus say the man who found the treasure came upon it? How does Jesus say the merchant who found the pearl came upon it? In each case what is the emphasis?
3. How did the man and merchant obtain that which they prized? Was it easy for them to obtain it? Was it worth it? How does this help us to understand the kingdom of heaven?
4. How do these parables flow from the previous parables? Similarities? Contrasts?
5. **Read Isaiah 55:1-2.** Considering this passage, how ought we think about 'purchasing' the kingdom of heaven?
6. **Read Philippians 3:7-10.** How can we see the words of Paul from Philippians in this parable? How does this passage help us to understand how we are to pursue the kingdom of heaven?
7. Looking at the contrary implications of these parables, what would the reader think about a man who found a valuable treasure and then did nothing to possess it? How does that relate to those who seen the treasure of Christ but do nothing to possess Him?
8. What wrong conceptions of the Kingdom of Heaven has Matthew 13 corrected for you?
9. Discuss how the beauty of Jesus—his person, his work on the cross, his resurrection—compel us to live joyfully obedient lives, giving it all up to follow him.
10. Discuss what worldly treasures tempt us. Discuss how Jesus is a better treasure.