



What Do You Treasure/Value?

Jesus said, *"Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."* (Matt. 6:21)

What is your treasure? What do you treasure over other things?

Value Determines Priority

What we call "values" drives our attitudes and actions.

We all have "values" and our values should be shaped by Christ and God's kingdom

Value = What is Important?

Priority = What is 1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.

Value of Learning and Discovery

One great lesson of the parable is the **joy of the discovery** that caused the man to be willing to give up everything to make the treasure, and the expectation of discovery his own.

Matthew 13:44-46, *Again, The kingdom of heaven is like something precious buried in a field, which a man found and hid again; **then in his joy he goes and sells all he has and buys that field.***

Don't Be Another "Hedonist"

Hedonism refers to a family of theories, all of which have in common that **pleasure plays a central role in them**. Psychological or motivational hedonism claims that human behavior is determined by desires to increase pleasure and to decrease pain.

This is contrary to the principle of following Christ and God's kingdom.
"Seek first the Kingdom and His righteousness."

Pleasure and gratification are not the main thing. In fact, denying yourself and embracing pain is part of the purpose.

In God's plan, **all things are added**

Right Place at the Right Time

Matthew 13:44

*Again, The kingdom of heaven is like **something precious buried in a field**, which a man found [stumbled upon it]...*

There is truth in being **"at the right place at the right time."**

When you **value** walking with the Lord, and **value** walking in His ways, you "stumble upon" many precious things.

It is God working through your diligence and working on your behalf.

The Pull of Value Revealed:

Finding treasure (value) requires going about your daily business with diligence. **We go for the best**, not just for what is laying on the surface.

Hebrews 11:6, *"But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him."*

The Pull of Priority Revealed:

Find your "Pearls" and "Pearl." Prioritize the things in God and in life that are most beautiful to you.

Let's Talk about Pearls of Priority

Matthew 13:45

Again the kingdom of heaven is like a man **who is a dealer in search** of fine and precious pearls, 46 Who, on finding a single pearl of great price, went and sold all he had and bought it.

Prov. 23:23, Buy the truth, and do not sell it, Also wisdom and instruction and understanding.

Let's Talk about Pearls of Priority

The story about the pearl merchant is different than the man who found treasure in the field.

VALUE - The man who found treasure bought the field because he valued finding more treasure.

PRIORITY - The Pearl merchant admired pearls and was on the lookout for better pearls

What is the Value of Priority?

Priority is not only about things you **HAVE TO DO**.

It is also about things you **SHOULD DO** first (Matt. 6:33).

THE PARETO PRINCIPLE

*80/20 RULE



What is the Value of Priority?

Priority is not only about things you **HAVE TO DO**.

It is also about things you **LOVE TO DO**.

It is about things that you consider **beautiful** and the pursuit of those things



The **kingdom of God** is like the pearl merchant, or one pursuing priority.

We don't seek the kingdom only to have things added.
We seek the kingdom because it is beautiful!

We seek the kingdom because **There's nothing better!**

**What lesser things are you willing to
"sell" to have the greater?**

Reflection Questions:

1. What is Value?
2. Who are the people you value?
3. What are the things you value?
4. What values need to change?
5. How to you value the kingdom of God?

Reflection Questions:

1. What is Priority?
2. What do you **have** to do?
3. What **should** you do?
4. What things are beautiful to you?
5. Where does the Kingdom of God fit in?
6. What needs to change?