

**Are you wondering what it means to be a Christian?**

**Jesus said, "All that the Father gives me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will never drive away" (John 6:37). Jesus also said, "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day" (John 6:44).**

**If you are feeling drawn to Christ, it is because God the Father is drawing you; it is not a desire we can or will create within ourselves. This also means that there is no sin too great to be forgiven, and no past too sinful to be overcome. You can trust Christ to receive you because it is God the Father who is drawing you to find true repentance and receive the gift of faith. You can know a new life in Jesus Christ.**

**We would love to talk and pray with you about this or any other spiritual needs you may have. Please see Pastor Mark or one of our elders after today's service to do so.**

**Are you interested in Baptism or Church Membership?**

**Please indicate your interest on the back of your Connection Card and Pastor Mark or one of the elders will be in touch with you this week to set up a time to meet with you.**

**James 1:1-12**

**THE PARABLES OF THE HIDDEN TREASURE AND THE PEARL Matthew 13:44-46**

**Main Thought:** In the parables of the hidden treasure and the pearl, we discover that the kingdom of heaven is worth infinitely more than the cost of discipleship and those who know where the treasure lies joyfully abandon everything else to secure it.

**1. THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF THE PARABLES**

1) The Parable of the \_\_\_\_\_

2) The Parable of the \_\_\_\_\_

**2. THE \_\_\_\_\_ AND \_\_\_\_\_ OF THE PARABLES**

1) The Value of the \_\_\_\_\_.

2) The Cost of \_\_\_\_\_.

3) The Kingdom is \_\_\_\_\_ appropriated.

4) The Kingdom is the source of \_\_\_\_\_.

## ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR GROWTH GROUPS

1. Read Matthew 13:44-46.
2. To what is the kingdom of heaven compared in the two parables?
3. What does that tell you about the value of the kingdom of heaven?
4. What are some of the components of being part of the kingdom of heaven that make it so valuable? (Use the following verses to get started and then add more of your own)
  - 1) John 3:16
  - 2) John 14:15-17
  - 3) 2 Corinthians 5:17-21
  - 4) Ephesians 1:2-14
5. What do these parables reveal about the emotion and energy with which the kingdom of heaven should be pursued?
6. What do these parables reveal about the cost to us of entering the kingdom of heaven? What do you think it means to sell everything?
7. What does Jesus say about the cost of discipleship in Luke 14:25-35?
8. As you study these parables, what is God's Spirit saying to you about how you should respond or apply them in your life? Is Jesus and the kingdom of heaven your treasure? How does that impact your life on a daily basis?