

Editorial Thought...

A PRACTICAL VIEW OF TOTAL COMMITMENT...

*"Let those with ears, listen!
The Kingdom of Heaven is like a treasure..."*
- Matthew 13:44 (TLB) -



Daniel Seay

What do you *Value* most in your life? To put it another way, if you were asked to pen a Top 10 list of your priorities, what priority would appear #1? It's not an unimportant question. In fact, Jesus states it is the most important question you will ever answer.

Jesus spoke to the people of His day in parables, or stories. These stories changed the world. Not just during His day, but for all the days, years and generations since, until now. These are simple and plain stories that are easy with which to identify. For those with *spiritual vision*, they convey truths that focus in on the truly important priorities and issues about how we are to live pleasing to the Almighty God, Creator of Heaven and Earth. In most of these parables, Jesus speaks about what the "Kingdom" is like. The "Kingdom", of course, is the "Rule of God" and refers to all things that are in it and all that comes under its rule. For one to be "In The Kingdom of God", one must be "Under The Rule of God". So when Jesus provides us with "Kingdom" Truths, we need to be listening, for eternity hangs in the balance.

In Matthew 13, Jesus presents us with several Parables. Starting out with *the Parable of the Sower*, which He repeats along with commentary and explanation for His disciples, He then tells the Parable of the Wheat and the Weeds, again, along with an explanation. Then He asks His disciples: "Are you listening? Are you really listening?" (verse 43 – MSG). And that, of course, is the real question for each of us: *Are We Listening* to what Jesus has to say to us about the Kingdom?

Earlier, in Matthew 6:33, Jesus issued this familiar request: "Seek First The Kingdom Of God". This is a request, a command, and a ranking of priority for each of us. There are countless lessons, both to be taught and to be learned, in those brief 6 words. But it's the making of application by each of us for our own unique life circumstances that becomes the challenge. So, in order to be clear, Jesus taught in Parables about the Kingdom. The lessons were picture stories with meanings that sincere followers could not begin to misunderstand. Some of the shortest parables were some of the hardest from which to make application – not because they were difficult to understand, but because they were excessively challenging in their application. In Matthew 13:44-46 there are two such Parables. Both tell of a seeker who found something in his search that he realized was far more valuable than anything else. Selling *all he had*, he then bought that which was of greatest value. The lesson is clear: When that which is of greatest value is discovered (the Kingdom, *per* Jesus), those who rightfully appraise its value *give up everything* in order to capture the found treasure. Jesus is explicit: The Kingdom Of God *is* like that!! It is a treasure. It is like a flawless pearl. It is worth EVERYTHING you have, EVERYTHING you are, in order to possess it.

That, my friends, is Jesus' practical view of what it means to have Total Commitment to Him. Amen!

News And Notes

Our Prayer List

Rob Harris, Susie Moore, Chris Folster, Gwen Gann, LouAnn Gann, Josh Werner, Billye Werner, June Brant, Donna Spader, Rozalyn Boggs, Alice Jones, Diana Nordin, Peggy Tucker's brother Mike Clark, Jeannette Pope, Betsy Pippin, Our Elected Officials and all World Leaders.

"The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective."
[James 5:16b]

Statistics

For The Week Of May 15th, 2016

Sun3ay Class	10
Sunday AM	12
Sunday PM	dnm
Wednesday PM	6
Contribution	\$327.00
YTD Budget (20 x \$735)	\$14,700.00
Difference Year-To-Date	-\$1318.00
Savings Account Balance	\$2,281.01

2nd Corinthians 9:12 – "Your generosity is doing great things"

MAY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays: Shane McCallie (5), Amber Flessner (13), John Guyot (18), Mary Ann Harris (21), Brooke Guyot (28)
Anniversaries: None

COMING EVENTS

Special Memorial Day Service
- NEXT SUNDAY, May 29th, 2016 -

Let's Restock Our Pantry
- We Are Empty Since Our Last Pickup -

GOSPEL SINGING SATURDAY – 5/28
COFFEYVILLE CHURCH OF CHRIST
STARTS @ 6PM / PLAN TO ATTEND!

SPECIAL MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE
SUNDAY, MAY 29TH, 2016
INVITE A FRIEND OR NEIGHBOR
MAY GOD BLESS AMERICA!

PRAYER REQUESTS

Continue your ardent prayers for **Jozie and Christina Thompson, CJ Watkins** (son-in-law of Janice Seay), and **Jimmy Golden** (friend of the Collins).

Agenda For Sunday, May 22nd, 2016

Theme:

GROWING WITH GOD

Today's Topic:

"Parable Of The Hidden Treasure"

AM Class: *AD – Film Series Study*

Teacher: Chase Harris / *In The Blue Room*

10:30 am: **The Hidden Treasure & The Pearl**

Text: Matthew 13:44-46 / Philippians 3:1-11

1 pm: - **No Devotional At 1pm**

- Singing At Caney At 2pm Today -

Wed. 7pm: **Class Study "BELIEVE"**

Wade McCallie, Teaching

Special Prayer Requests

Pray Special And Specific Intercessory Prayers For:

June Brant	Gwen Gann
Jeannette Pope	Alice Jones
Diana Nordin	Allen Sullivan
Billye Werner	Tim & Chandra Stebbins
Janice Seay	Cynthia Bradley
Chris Folster	Paul & Kathy Apprill
Roy Bays	Rozalyn Boggs
Willie Whitaker	Jozie Thompson
C J Watkins	Jeanie McDonald
Susie Moore	Jimmy Golden

"Yes, a person is a fool to store up earthly wealth but not have a rich relationship with God."

- Luke 12:21 (NLT) -

