

**Week One: “Buried Treasure”**

**Day One: “Buried Treasure”**

**Read: Matthew 13:44-46 (*Freedom in Christ Bible*, p. 1096)**

**Read: *The Treasure Principle*, p. 6 to top of p. 8**

Reflect: What keeps you awake at night?

Honestly, what does your heart treasure?

Dig: Why do you think that these two parables (the “Hidden Treasure” and the “Hidden Pearl”) are put together?

What is it about the kingdom of heaven that is “hidden”?

What was the feeling that the man had when he made his plan to buy the field?

Look up Mark 8:33-38 and answer this question: What is of more value than the whole world?

Apply: What heart change do you need in order to have the same kind of attitude as the man who joyfully sold what he had in order to purchase “the kingdom of heaven”?

What will you have to give up in order to treasure God’s kingdom?

**Week One: “Buried Treasure”**

**Day Two: “Buried Treasure”**

**Read: Luke 3:7-18** (*Freedom in Christ Bible*, p. 1156)

**Read: *The Treasure Principle*, top of p. 8 to top of p. 11**

Reflect: What changes occurred in your attitude toward money when you became a Christian?

What changes are you still waiting on?

Dig: According to this passage, what ought to come from a truly repentant heart? See verse 8.

What three groups of people asked John how to have truly repentant hearts?

What did he tell them?

Look up Luke 8:14. What are the three things that are mentioned that “choke out” the good seed of the word of God so that it does not mature?

Apply: Is money an idol in your life? How will you destroy this idol?

Is money an idol in our culture?

How can we as a church destroy this idol?

**Week One: “Buried Treasure”**  
**Day Three: “Smart or Stupid?”**

**Read: Matthew 6:19-21 (*Freedom in Christ Bible*, p. 1083)**

**Read: *The Treasure Principle*, top of p. 8 to top of page 11**

Reflect: What have you given up in the short-term to gain a long-term reward that was of far more value? (For example: “I gave up having fun and studied hard so that I could get my degree and graduate from high school.”)

Dig: Why does Jesus tell us not to lay up treasures on earth?

What is the perspective on time that Jesus has in these verses?

How is a lively and powerful vision of heaven related to how we see things and possessions on earth?

Where does Jesus tell us to store up treasures?

According to this scripture, what organ is the means of treasuring?

If we want our hearts to treasure something else (we don’t like what our hearts treasure now), then according to this passage, what should we do?

Apply: Since, as Randy Alcorn said, “Christ’s financial forecast for earth is bleak—but he’s unreservedly bullish about investing in heaven, where every market indicator is eternally positive...” what prayer could you write out in this space which calls on God to align your heart with eternal treasures and kill your desires for earthly treasures? (*The Treasure Principle*, p. 14)

**Week One: “Buried Treasure”**  
**Day Four: “A Treasure Mentality”**

**Read: Philippians 3:7-11 (*Freedom in Christ Bible*, p. 1368)**

**Read: *The Treasure Principle*, p. 15 through middle of p. 17**

Reflect: If Christ were your ultimate treasure and all you really wanted was to know him better, what would change in your life?

Dig: What did Paul consider to be just so much fluff? See verses 4-6 of this chapter.

According to verse 10, what are the two things that Paul wanted to know and experience?

How does Paul’s attitude make him fearless even in the face of death? See Philippians 2:21-26.

What *person* does Paul treasure?

What *place* does Paul treasure?

What *possessions* does Paul treasure?

Apply: What *person* do you treasure most?

What *place* do you treasure most?

What *possessions* do you treasure most?

**Week One: “Buried Treasure”**  
**Day Five: “The Treasure Principle”**

**Read: *The Treasure Principle*, bottom of p. 17 to end of chapter**

Using the “Lectio Divina” method of Bible study, (see page 2 of this booklet), meditate on this scripture:

“Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” Matthew 6:21 (NIV)

*Lectio divina* (a Latin expression which means Sacred reading) is done in three stages:

- reading: you read the passage slowly and reverentially, allowing the words to sink into your consciousness; after you have memorized the text, write down one word which strikes you and draws your attention and note why you chose that word.
- meditation: you allow the passage to stir up memories within you, so that you recognize in it your own experience or that of people who have touched your life; write down memories of events or conversations or other scripture passages.
- prayer: you allow the meditation to lead you to prayer – thanksgiving, humility and petition. Write out a prayer based on the passage.