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The Principle of Treasure

Focus

The Lord sees us as His most valuable treasure. Value is determined by how much one is willing to pay, and He paid the ultimate price for us—His life.

Fun

Discuss your favorite memory that involved a treasure hunt. Another option is to plan a treasure hunt for your group around the church or your meeting place using a small gift appropriate for your group as the treasure.

Review

Key Scripture: Matthew 13:44

The Treasure of the Kingdom

Matthew 13:44

This parable speaks of a man spending all he had to buy a field that contained what he found to be a treasure. The field represents the world, the man represents Jesus, and the treasure represents us. Jesus gave up everything to purchase us and paid the price for our salvation because we are His treasure.

The Treasure of the Heart

Matthew 6:21; 2 Corinthians 9:7

Your heart follows your treasure. When you invest in something, your heart will be drawn to it and desire to care for it. The Lord says when we invest in the kingdom with our giving we should do it without reluctance or compulsion and give with joy.

Group Dynamics Idea Connection is a key component in the success of a small group. People are creatures of habit and will usually gravitate toward the same people and the same seating location in your meeting place. Suggest a fun challenge as people enter this week. Encourage them to sit in a seat they have never sat in before!

Discuss

1. Read Matthew 13:44. The Lord treasures every person in this way. What does this concept mean to you personally?
2. Knowing the Lord gave something so valuable and precious in order to have us reconciled to Him, what can we give in return? What are the tangible and intangible ways we can give to the Lord?
3. Read 2 Corinthians 9:7. How would you counsel a friend to refrain from giving under compulsion? Why do you think God tells us not to give in this way?

4. It's easy to become detached from the act of giving when the process is a transaction done online or an automatic withdrawal. In this case, what can a person do to reignite their cheerfulness about giving to the Lord? How can it be made personal?
5. Read Matthew 6:21. What is the principle of investing in this scripture? How does this also relate to our relationships?

Take Home

- We are a treasure to God, and Jesus paid the price for everyone to be reconciled with God.
- We decide to accept His free gift.
- We are worth the value of the life of Jesus.
- Where your treasure is, that's where your heart will be also.
- Give what you decide without reluctance or compulsion.
- God loves a cheerful giver.

Prayer

Dear Lord, thank You for freely giving the payment of Your son, Jesus, for our salvation. Thank You for loving us beyond our comprehension. As we receive Your gift, help us to share with others their true value in Your sight. Teach us, Lord, how to give out of joy because of the goodness and mercy You have given to us. We praise You and thank You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

New Leader Tip After encouraging your group to pray for people the Lord wants to impact, suggest they take the next step and invite that person to the upcoming Easter service!