

SG Discussion Questions

for Personal Study and Small Groups 6/16/13

Bid it all! Matthew 13.44-58

Purpose of SG: to foster in its members the biblical values of worship (God), discipleship (church), and outreach (lost).

2013 Annual Focus: Drawing Near to the Good and Mighty King.

Announcements: Remember to pray for Runner's Camp this week.

SG Discussion Questions:

Focus: *to call us to make the kingdom (and the King) our great treasure, because of joy and the coming judgment.*

As a conversation starter, have people share about their experience with "buyer's remorse" or "window shopper's regret".

Read 13.44-45. What is the key lesson these 2 parables are pressing us with? What tempts us not to pursue the kingdom with joy?

What about the Kingdom of heaven is most appealing/motivating to you? How can this be used to counterbalance those things that make us reluctant to gladly sacrifice to follow Jesus? Would you say that following Jesus brings you great joy?

Read 13.47-50. How is this parable similar to the parable of the weeds in 13. 24-30 and 36-43? Why do you think these two parable bracket the two parables on the kingdom as treasure? What impacts you most about this parable of the Net?

Read 13.51-58. Why do you think the rejection of Jesus was so strong in his hometown? Who might that temptation most afflict in our day? How does verse 58 strike you?

What is your response to this passage, especially to the message of the parables of the treasure and the pearl? What gives you pause in sacrificing with joy to pursue the kingdom and follow Jesus? What can you do to increase your joy at the treasure of the kingdom of heaven?