



Message Notes

Bring It!!

Matthew 13

⁴⁷Once again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was let down into the lake and caught all kinds of fish. ⁴⁸When it was full, the fishermen pulled it up on the shore. Then they sat down and collected the good fish in baskets, but threw the bad away. ⁴⁹This is how it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹"Have you understood all these things?" Jesus asked.

"Yes," they replied.

⁵²He said to them, "Therefore every teacher of the law who has been instructed about the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of his storeroom new treasures as well as old."

What would your first take on the parable be?

The Kingdom of God— The rule reign and leadership of God over a person's entire being—(heart, soul, mind and strength). The Kingdom is received by faith not forced upon anyone and exists in a context of love.

Living in the Kingdom –having Kingdom of God identity now -matters.

It may look at times like it doesn't—all kinds of fish swimming together in the same ocean—but it does, it really does. Jesus says in the fishnet parable that there is a time of "gathering in" and "separating out" the "r _____" and the "w _____"!

So who are the "righteous" and who are the "wicked"?

Luke 18 ⁹To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everybody else, Jesus told this parable: ¹⁰"Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹The Pharisee stood up and prayed about ^u himself: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. ¹²I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.'

¹³"But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, 'God, have mercy on me, a sinner.'

¹⁴"I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

“Are you getting it?”

“ _____ ”

“Good, because I have a great _____ for your life!”

Matthew 13 ⁵¹Jesus asked, "Are you starting to get a handle on all this?"

They answered, "Yes."

⁵²He said, "Then you see how every student well-trained in God's kingdom is like the owner of a general store who can put his hands on anything you need, old or new, exactly when you need it."

As we are “d _____” in the Kingdom of Heaven

(how life really works) we become the “ _____” of great

Kingdom treasures, both old and new, into the real lives of others!

Kingdom treasures?

“Bring Out the Good Stuff”

A Personal and Small Group Experience

Matthew 13, "Therefore every teacher of the law who has been instructed about the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of his storeroom new treasures as well as old."

We talked in the message Sunday how this verse was sort of a commissioning to the listeners of the preceding parables. He sends them now as “bringers of the treasures of the Kingdom”. Jesus really envisions the wondrously positive impact His “Kingdom Bringers” can have in the hearts and lives of real people. For the recipients its like “treasure finding” with all the adorning joy, excitement and “WOW!” of getting an unexpected gift.

I have to admit I enjoy having people over and “bringing out the good stuff” as a kind of spicy gift into their lives. It could be a great bottle of wine or maybe “sopaipilla cheesecake” or “teriyaki bacon-wrapped venison tenderloin medallions” or “grilled bacon-wrapped jalapeño-stuffed dove breasts in chipotle Bar-BQ sauce.” Stop! Stop! I am losing my head here and getting very hungry. You get the picture though—we love to bring out the good stuff and place it into peoples lives just to bless them—to love them. Food is a great example but Jesus lifts our sights a little higher and says we are actually “Bringers of Kingdom treasures.”

The treasures of the kingdom are many and varied but all flow from the heart of God. Off the top of my head, I personally value highly things like unconditional love, grace, contentment in Christ, truth about success, healthy attitude about money and wealth, clean slate with God...etc. as great treasures that only are found in the Kingdom of God.

Name a good “treasure of the Kingdom” that you currently experience and then name a “bringer” who God used to pour that treasure into your life.

(Ex. My parents were givers of “no grudge held—grace” to me. I treasure this.) The kingdom treasure that comes to your mind could be from the past or very recently, subtle or profound, old or new. Share around the group!

Now lets take a look at a section of scripture that casts a tremendous vision for how we, the people of the Kingdom, can make high impact by bringing the goods of the kingdom with us every day for distribution into peoples lives.

READ Romans 12 in sections (vs.1-2, 3-8, 9-16, 17-21) discussing as you go:

What are the Kingdom treasures presented here?

How do I need to more fully receive these treasures?

How specifically could I be a “bringer” of these Kingdom treasures into my family and work environments? Who specifically might benefit? How?

PRAY for each other as you have heard needs shared. Pray specifically to be bringers of Kingdom treasures into the networks of people we do life with.

Connecting with God this week

“Connecting With God” Weekly Guide

This booklet is a resource to help you “Connect with God” this week. He deeply desires ongoing personal connection with you. You are that important to Him.

This Page has some scripture verses for you to meditate on each day this week. Notice the helpful hints section – these are great things to consider when personally engaging with God through His Word.

The Center Pages contain the notes and outline for the message given on Sunday. The message is also available as an audio download from www.pointofgracechurch.org

The Back Page has a study written specifically for a small group of people (or an individual) to drill down deeper into a particular aspect of the week’s theme. Small groups can review memorable points of the week’s message and then work through the study concluding with a time of prayer.

Extra Fold-Out panels are used when Point of Grace has a special prayer emphasis. Currently the “21-days of Prayer for God’s most wanted gives you the opportunity to pray for those you know that need real connection with God with a particular emphasis on praying for and inviting them to our upcoming Alpha Course

Scripture & Meditation Guide February 15-20

Helpful Hints:

- 1) Find a quiet place along with 15-20 minutes!
- 2) Focus on God for a few moments asking His Spirit to speak to your heart!
- 3) Listen to Him by reading a section of scripture then rereading it several times, dwelling on “words and phrases” which grab your heart’s attention.
Ask God, “What do You want me to hear?” “Why this word at this time?”
“How are You inviting me to respond?”
- 4) Pray everything that is on your heart and mind as you are ready!
Worship Him, Bless Him, Thank Him, Ask Him, Trust Him

These verses will remind you that we all get to make impact in others lives as we bring Kingdom treasures our for distribution everyday!

Monday: Matthew 5:13-16

Tuesday: Psalm 51:10-15

Wednesday: 1 Peter 3:8-15

Thursday: Romans 12:17-21

Friday: Colossians 4:2-6

Saturday: Ephesians 5:15-20