

LEADER PREP

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

To inspire students to experience the great treasure of Jesus for themselves.

MAIN POINT

Jesus is a treasure worth leaving everything else behind for.

MAIN SCRIPTURES

Matthew 13:44-46 +
Psalm 34:8

THINK ABOUT THIS

Sometimes we can fall into the trap of trying to convince others of Jesus' value instead of realizing the greatest value is in inviting them to "taste and see" it for themselves. Our goal should be not to simply state Jesus' worth, but to talk about it in a way that students are inspired to know His amazing worth for themselves.

As a committed small group leader in your students lives you hold great influence in their lives. Think of some moments where you were amazed at the treasure you found in Jesus and/or what motivated you to pursue the treasure of Jesus. Be willingly to be vulnerable and share these moments with your students.

This guide is a suggestion, not a formula. Adjust the questions and activities as needed, and don't feel like you need to do, or ask, everything you see here. Let the students and the Holy Spirit guide the conversation, too.

DISCUSSION GUIDE

GET THEM TALKING

- Let's all share our highs and lows from the week.
- What is your favorite treasure hunting show, movie, or game?
- Think back to these movies or shows. What lengths do people go in hunt for the treasure? Why?
- In your own words, what was the main point of the message?

INTO THE WORD

READ Matthew 13:44-46 and answer the following questions:

1. How would you describe the kingdom of Heaven? What do you think it's like?
2. How do the people in the parables react when they found the treasure and pearl? Why?
3. **HSM+: Some pearls are priceless. Some are fake imitations. What does this metaphor tell you about your own search for meaning, purpose, and joy in life?**
4. What would it mean for us to "sell everything" in exchange for the treasure of Jesus?
5. Be real: do you believe Jesus is a treasure worth "selling everything" for? Why or why not?

READ Psalm 34:8 and discuss:

1. What's the difference between hearing how good something is and personally tasting how good it is?
2. Who can share ways you've personally experienced Jesus' goodness?
3. What are ways that we can "taste and see" God's goodness?

NEXT STEP

This week let's go on our own treasure hunt. Pick one of the Gospels and start reading about Jesus on your own this week. Note one new thing you learn about Jesus that you "treasure" about Him. Be ready next week and let's all share our "treasure finds" with each other.

PRAYER GUIDE

We are going to close in prayer.
Anyone have any prayer requests?

MAIN SCRIPTURES

Scripture is provided for convenience, but we prefer you and your students open your Bibles to read the Scripture. This helps your students learn how to find Scripture in their Bibles and where these verses are in the larger context of God's Word.

MATTHEW 13:44-46 (NIV)

⁴⁴ "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.

⁴⁵ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. ⁴⁶ When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.

PSALM 34:8 (NLT)

"Taste and see that the Lord is good. Oh, the joys of those who take refuge in Him!"

LEADER CORNER + NOTES