Pearl of Great Price

Study & Discussion Questions

01

Passage · Matthew 13:45–46

The One · With publisher's permission

> *Again, the Kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls. When he found one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.*

02

Devotional

Bill Perkins

The man in the field
finds treasure by surprise.
The merchant finds the pearl
through a long search.
Two different men.
Two different paths.
One greater worth.

The merchant has trained eyes.
He knows what he is looking for.
He has walked through markets,
examined fine things,
and gathered beauty
into his collection.

But the search does not end
when he finds something good.
It ends when he finds
what is greater than everything
he already owns.

Then he sees the one pearl—
not merely another beautiful thing,
but the masterpiece
that makes the others commonplace.

You may not know this about Jesus:
He is not one more treasure
added to my collection.
He is the value
by which every other treasure
is finally measured.

The merchant does not keep
his old riches beside the pearl
as though nothing has changed.
He sells all he has
because the greater value
has overwhelmed them all.

This is not the story
of a man who settles.
It is the story
of a man whose search
finally reaches its end.

Some of us discover
before we know to look.
Some of us search
for years before we recognize
what we have been seeking.
But when Jesus becomes clear,
the response is the same:
joyful surrender.

The pearl is worth everything.
Not because everything else
has no beauty,
but because nothing else
can compare with Him.

What is worth everything?

03

Reflection Question

What is Jesus showing me about the difference between something good and what is worth everything?

04

What This Means to Me

Some days I am the digger,
surprised by grace
in an ordinary field.
Some days I am the merchant,
searching and asking
for what is true.

Jesus meets me in both places.
He is the treasure
I did not know to seek
and the answer
my searching could not produce.

When I see Him clearly,
my values become clear.
I can let the minor riches fall
because the greater value
has found me.

05

Discussion Questions

1. What part of the merchant’s long search resonates with me most?
2. What have I treated as valuable enough to hold onto at all costs?
3. What does it mean to see Jesus as surpassing every other value?
4. How can honest searching become surrender when the greater treasure is found?
5. Where might Jesus be inviting me to let the minor riches fall?
6. What would it look like to receive the end of my search in Jesus—and how can our group pray for me about it?

06

Prayer

Father,
bring my searching to Jesus.

Give me eyes to recognize
what is truly valuable.
Keep me from adding Your Son
to a collection of lesser loves.

When I see the pearl of great price,
give me courage to release
what cannot compare.

Let Jesus be the end
of my restless search,
the joy that reorders
all I value.

I ask in Jesus' name.
Amen.

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