



# Being with Jesus:

## A Devotional From the Book of Mark

Week 4

The Cost of Following Jesus

Day 2

### Scripture

“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.

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

— Matthew 13:44-46

### Prayer:

Jesus, You are the greatest treasure that exists. When I see glimpses of Your glory, it outshines the gold of this world. Help me to keep Your value in mind. Help me to praise You according to Your worth and to choose You over all other things. Amen.

### Reflection

Jesus tells this parable about the kingdom of heaven. When He says heaven, He means to contrast heaven against the kingdoms of the earth. Heaven is a superior place. So, He tells about someone finding a treasure in a field that is worth more than all they own. They gather up and sell all they have in order to buy the field so they can get the treasure.

The next story is similar. A man who’s been looking at pearls his whole life sees one of great value and sells everything to get it. He trades inferior things for one thing that are superior. This is an exchange that just makes good business sense. Jesus is saying, “That’s what it’s like to seek the kingdom of heaven above all else!”

If someone asked you to trade some small amount of money for a much larger amount, wouldn’t you do it? If we believe what Jesus is saying is true, we should be willing to trade what we have to get the treasure of the kingdom of heaven. Not only that, but like the man in the parable, we should be *joyful* in the trade!

### Questions

What earthly thing are you holding on to that you hesitate to give up for God?

Has God been asking you to “sell” anything so that you can have more of Him?

Have you ever regretted giving up something in order to be closer to God?