

TITLE AND NUMBER: 92. Treasure in Heaven



REFERENCE AND KEY VERSE(S): Luke 12:32-34

Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will never fail, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

LOOKING FURTHER: John 14:1-4, Mark 1:15, Matthew 7:21, 1 Timothy 6:12, Luke 17:20-12

What does this Bible passage tell us?

Just before this passage, the Bible addresses not worrying about how we will get by in life, or how we will afford what we need. It reassures us that God will be keeping His eye on us and will help us all through our lives if we put our trust in Him. That is why our verse begins with "Do not be afraid."

If you are planning to give someone a wonderful present, the pleasure of giving it is a joy to you first, and then to the one receiving it. The build-up is exciting for you and, on the day, everyone is happy. This is how God feels about us inheriting His Kingdom – welcoming us into relationship with Him.

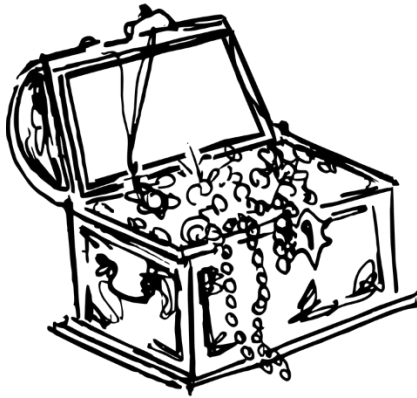
Sometimes, when we think about God's Kingdom, we imagine it is something that is in the future after we pass away. But, in Luke 17, Jesus tells us, "the kingdom of God is in your midst." This means we can find His Kingdom now by being in relationship with God and showing His love to those around us.

Next, the verse says if we save up and buy many possessions, they will not last long and will just get old and damaged or be stolen. So what is the point? If our focus is on God instead - on enjoying our relationship with Him, doing our best for Him, and sharing His love with others - this brings God's Kingdom into our lives now and in the future. The precious things of God will become our greatest treasure. And the Kingdom, which He promises, will be here with us both now and throughout eternity. Our lives will be happier now and in the future when we are not fretting about what we have (or do not have) because we know we are bringing about the Kingdom of God. Don't you think that would be the best present of all?

Reflections:

- What gifts (or 'spiritual treasure') do you think God has already given you? For example, friends, family, chaplains, or the relationship you have with God.
- It might seem like a dream that we can find God's Kingdom in our daily lives and keep it forever. But these verses say that it is real and that we can experience it now if we love Him and never let go of Him. How does this make you feel?
- The Bible says eternity starts now, so we should not think that receiving 'spiritual treasure' is something that only happens when we die. God wants to have a relationship with us in which we know that He is pleased with us already! Pray that God would open your eyes to His Kingdom around you now.

Write or draw something you read in this Bible Study that stood out to you.



Do you have any questions about this week's Bible Study?



How does this week's message apply to your life?



What can we learn about God from this week's passage?



What would you like to ask God this week?



Has God responded to your prayers this week in the way you had hoped for? It's okay to talk to God about this.

