



God Time – The Attitude of Humility

These scriptures are selected to help you gain a deeper understanding of who Jesus is. You can read them each day or listen to the daily audio that is sent to you. They are intentionally designed for you to engage in your time alone with God. You will find them complementary to the teachings on the weekend (gatherings) and to the LIFE Group materials.

Some tips:

Use a Bible that is easy to read. The ESV or The NLT are both good translations.

Use a prayer journal. After you read the passages jot down what “jumped out” at you while reading. Then take a few minutes to write a prayer response to what you have read.

There are only five days of reading provided so if you miss a day you have time to catch up. Do not get legalistic! If you miss a day or even a week...God still loves you!

Monday: John 13:12-17

Tuesday: Matthew 11:29

Wednesday: Matthew 20:25-28

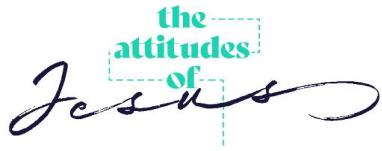
Thursday: 1 Peter 5:5-7

Friday: Ephesians 4:2

Diving Deeper

The Attitude of Jesus – Spiritual Purity – Having the Right Attitude Leads to Hidden Treasure

Matthew 13:44 – 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.

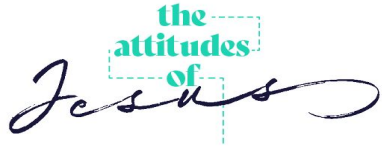


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Becoming like Jesus depends upon our willingness to release our own attitude and accept the treasure that can be found in Jesus. We all like to search for treasures. There are stories of the Spaniards coming through the Wimberley area in the 1800's near what is now known as River Mountain Ranch. They came under attack and hid a large cache of gold and other treasures in near proximity to the Blanco River. Some of the local teenagers in the 1960's and 70's would trek up to that area and spend an entire weekend looking for the treasure. But Jesus tells us of another treasure that a man found in a field. Once he found the treasure, he realized its value and buried it again keeping his discovery a secret. It was commonplace in those days for a person to go and hide his valuables by burying them on the land. According to Jewish law, if another person found the treasure it was permissible for them to keep it for themselves. But in this case, the man was poor and did not have confidence that he would be able to keep the treasure. He determined that the best way to secure the treasure was to sell all that he had and buy the field for himself. He was willing to give up all he had because he knew the value of the treasure was far greater than anything he had.

Jesus is telling us that the kingdom of heaven is like that hidden treasure. But before we can enjoy the kingdom of heaven, we must have a change of heart and allow the attitude of Jesus to consume us. What that means to some is too great and for that reason they never find the treasure. The people of this world look at the treasure and do not see anything of value. All they are concerned with is advancing their enjoyment in the things in this world. The apostle John warns us, "Do not love the world or the things in this world." (1 John 2:15) But what Jesus wants us to see is that the kingdom of heaven is a treasure hidden in this world, but of greater value than anything in this world. It is worth giving up everything in this world that we have in order to obtain it.

Jesus is not saying that we can buy our place into the kingdom of heaven with our works. A place in Christ's kingdom is absolutely free for it is available only to those who believe – "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved.....(Acts 6:31) But know that it is not cheap. It will cost you everything you have, even your own attitude. It may cost you your reputation and status in this world. It may cost you your friends or family members. It may cost you the things that this world considers valuable and worthy, even your material



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security, your job, or your peace in this world. But whatever it may cost to follow Jesus, the value of His kingdom is worth whatever price it may cost us.

1. Have you ever lost a precious gift?
2. Could you or did you get it back?
3. We must be willing to “dig deep” to find the treasure. The Greatest Gift of all is Jesus.
4. Are you willing to become poor in spirit to find the true treasure?