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| The Hidden Power and Priceless Value of the Kingdom |
| Matthew 13:31–33, 44–46 – Kingdom Week 3, June 15, 2025 |

Week One Overview

1. Introduction: The Announcement of a Kingdom

“The kingdom of God is at hand.” This isn’t just religious talk — it’s royal talk.

2. What Is the Gospel?

The Gospel Is: • **God’s Rescue Plan:** • **More Than Forgiveness:** • **A Story, Not a System.**

3. The Gospel of the Kingdom

The kingdom of God is ‘God’s reign through God’s people over God’s place’.

4. How It’s Different from Other Religions

Every other religion says: • Do this and maybe God will accept you. • Follow these steps, live this way, earn your way up.

The Gospel says: • It is done. The price for all the wrong that you and I have ever done has been paid for by Jesus via his death and resurrection on the cross.

5. Personal Applications: Repent and Believe

Two responses: **Repent and believe** – to put our trust and faith fully in Jesus.

Then last Sunday, we looked at ...

1. What Is the Kingdom of God?

- Where truth reigns over lies. • Where peace replaces violence.
- Where love pushes out hate. • Where Christ is King, and hearts are transformed.

2. The Kingdom Has Come—And Is Still Coming

3. What Does It Mean to Desire God's Kingdom?

It Means We Want God's Will Done on Earth. Not just in heaven. But here. Now. In our families. In our city. In politics. In our own hearts. To desire the Kingdom means we are done with compromise. It means we long for Jesus to be King—not just in theory, but in action.

4. What Does It Look Like to Seek the Kingdom?

Personally: In the Church: In Society:

'God's Ambassadors'. representing the values of our true homeland. Every act of mercy, truth, and courage says: *"Here's a taste of the Kingdom."*

MATTHEW 13 – KINGDOM PARABLES

Parables - a window into the nature, growth, and value of God's Kingdom.

1. THE KINGDOM IS SMALL IN APPEARANCE BUT POWERFUL IN IMPACT

In Matthew 13:31–32 Jesus says **the Kingdom is like a mustard seed**—the smallest of all seeds—but it grows into a tree big enough for birds to nest in.

Does your faith, or your efforts feel small and insignificant? The Kingdom doesn't work by the world's standards. God starts small—and ends big.

Don't despise small beginnings—God doesn't.

2. THE KINGDOM IS UNSEEN BUT TRANSFORMATIVE

Sometimes, God's Kingdom works quietly—in hearts, in conversations, in acts of love.

You might not see the change immediately, but the Gospel, once planted, changes everything.

Are you and I letting God and His Kingdom into our lives?

3. THE KINGDOM IS WORTH EVERYTHING YOU HAVE

In both parables, the main character **finds something of surpassing value and sells everything to obtain it**. Both sell all. Both recognize something infinitely valuable. Both act decisively and joyfully. **The Kingdom of God isn't one** more thing in your life; it's the **main thing**.

C.S. Lewis once said: *"He who has God and everything else has no more than he who has God only."*

4. THE JOY OF THE KINGDOM

Joy. Don't miss this: The man or woman who finds the treasure sells everything with joy.

This isn't drudgery or duty—it's delight. Following Jesus isn't about losing—it's **about gaining something so much better**.

Are you and I living with Kingdom joy? Do others see it?
Or are we treating God, even service in church like a religious obligation?

5. WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR US TODAY?

Firstly: See God's Kingdom in small things. Secondly, trust His quiet work. Even when you don't see it, God is transforming hearts. Thirdly, live with open hands. Don't cling to temporary things. Fourthly, live with joy. Does your life and mine reflect joy? The treasure is already ours in Christ.

CONCLUSION & INVITATION

Jesus' invitation is not to religion—but to a Kingdom. A treasure. A new way of living.

Maybe you've never fully surrendered to Him. Maybe you've lost the joy of your salvation. Today, hear His invitation: *"Come, follow Me. Sell all—gain everything."*

REFLECTIONS THIS COMING WEEK

Set aside 30 minutes, uninterrupted time and go through this sheet, asking God to show you what the Holy Spirit most wants to reveal to you about the Kingdom of God and, how you should respond, with his help.