



new life fellowship

Sermon Title: **What Are You Looking For?**
Speaker: **Shauna Rushing – Pastor of Small Groups & Communities**
Scriptures: **Matthew 13:44-46**

The Parables of the Hidden Treasure and the Pearl

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.

45 “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. 46 When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.

Sermon Summary:

In Matthew 13, Jesus compares the kingdom of heaven to treasure in a field. The goal of the Christian faith is not simply our eternal salvation, it is Jesus, our Savior. This Sunday, Pastor Shauna will lead us with a message exploring Jesus as the invaluable treasure worthy of giving our whole lives to seek.

Sermon Questions:

1. What is your go to media black hole: news, social media, streaming platforms, podcasts, etc.? Do you relate to the experience of looking for something deeper than what all the content you are consuming can give you?
2. How would you describe your faith and relationship with Jesus today? (ex. curious about him, fatigued in your faith, disillusioned about following him, determined to seek him, or altogether indifferent or skeptical about him)
3. Share a story about a time you have experienced how valuable knowing and following Jesus can be or a story about how you have struggled to believe that nothing can compete or compare with the person and way of Jesus.
4. What “shiny” preoccupations pull you away from Jesus?
5. Pastor Shauna shared that Jesus is worthy of our allegiance, affection, and attention. What practical steps can you take this week to re-center your life on Jesus and his kingdom by giving him your primary loyalty, love and time? Examples:
 - **Confess your weakness and need for help** (to God and trusted others)
 - **Turn down the noise** (eliminate distractions)
 - **Tune in to the treasure**- Spend time with Jesus in ways that bring delight (prayer practices, Scripture, nature, music, art, fishing)
 - **Cultivate continual connection** (in the small ordinary moments)
 - **Surround yourself with people who point you to Jesus and support your journey of faith**