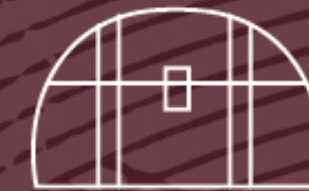


# MATTHEW







# The Parable of the Treasure







# The Parable of the Pearl



A man finds a pearl or a treasure which shatters the normalcy of life and invalidates all previous plans for the future. The result is a new set of values, expressed in both vv. 44 and 45 by the selling of all one's old possessions: these no longer mean anything. Finally, the person finding the treasure or pearl happily obtains the one thing needful. The kingdom now determines the course of one's existence. Advent, reversal, action: these words paradigmatically express the coming of the kingdom and its experience among human beings.

Davies & Allison



# The Hidden Value of the Kingdom



Honorable are those who see like the strong, for theirs is the Mediterranean. Glorious are those whose husbands and sons die in battle for they shall be most praised. Honorable are the bold, for they shall receive the glory of Rome. Glorious are those who strive and conquer for power, for they shall have slaves and land. Honorable are those who don't show mercy, for they shall obtain respect. Glorious are the pure in blood, for they shall carry Rome forever. Honorable are those who impose peace by an iron fist, for they shall be called sons of Mars. Glorious are those who serve the fatherland, to them belongs the eternal city.

Douglas Jones



On the contrary, we speak God's hidden wisdom in a mystery, a wisdom God predestined before the ages for our glory. 8 None of the rulers of this age knew this wisdom, because if they had known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

1 Corinthians 2:7-8





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**BALE**

STEVE  
**CARELL**

RYAN  
**GOSLING**

BRAD  
**PITT**

AN ADAM MCKAY FILM

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But everything that was a gain to me, I have considered to be a loss because of Christ. 8 More than that, I also consider everything to be a loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. Because of him I have suffered the loss of all things and consider them as dung, so that I may gain Christ 9 and be found in him.

Philippians 3:7-8



**LOSS**

**GAIN**

<b>LOSS</b>	<b>GAIN</b>



# The Urgency of Wholehearted Discipleship



Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.

Luke 9:23



Nondiscipleship costs abiding peace, a life penetrated throughout by love, faith that sees everything in light of God's overriding governance for good, hopefulness that stands firm in the most discouraging of circumstances, power to do what is right and withstand the forces of evil. In short, nondiscipleship costs you exactly that abundance of life Jesus said he came to bring.

Dallas Willard



**Sell Everything?**

The wild, unrestricted love of God is not simply an inspiring idea. When it imposes itself on mind and heart with the stark reality of ontological truth, it determines why and at what time you get up in the morning, how you pass your evenings, how you spend your weekends, what you read, and who you hang with; it affects what breaks your heart, what amazes you, and what makes your heart happy.

Brennan Manning



Time  
Energy  
Attention  
Money