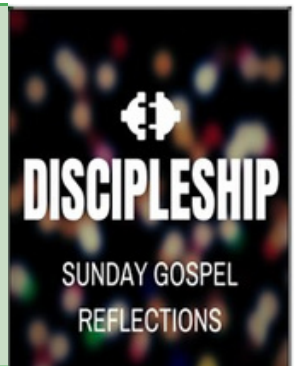


In preparation for July 26, 2026: Seventeenth Sunday In Ordinary Time

**Theme - The Treasure you've been searching for**

**Verse for reflection:** "The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field."

Matthew 13:44-52 (Verse 44)



**Adults -**

1. To value God's Kingdom means to see it as something worth more than comfort, status, possessions, or personal plans. What currently holds the highest value in your heart? Does it align with God's Kingdom? Why or why not?
2. Jesus says the man in the field sold everything in joy. Joy is a sign of true treasure. Where do you experience joy in your life? Is it rooted in God's presence? Explain how it brings you peace, purpose, and gratitude.
3. In the parable about the net, Jesus says the Kingdom gathers every type of person. Who in your life do you struggle to accept as being part of God's Kingdom? Jesus also speaks clearly about a final separation—a reminder that our choices matter. How does the reality of final judgment shape the way you live?

**Obstacles for living out the Gospel:** Attachment to earthly things; lack of joy; rejecting inclusivity.

**Teens -**

1. What are some "treasures" teens often chase after today? Some examples would be: Popularity, relationships, money, sports, success, social media, etc. Do those things actually bring lasting happiness? Why or why not?
2. What do you think people your age are truly searching for deep down?

How can faith and a relationship with Jesus fill that longing differently than the world does?

3. If someone looked at the way you spend your time, energy, and attention, what would they say your "greatest treasure" is right now?

**Obstacles to living out the Gospel:** Looking for fulfillment in the wrong places.



**Children -**

1. Which of the three parables from today's Gospel speaks to you the most? Why?
2. Have you ever thought of your faith as a treasure? Would you dash off and sell everything you have in order to possess it? Why or why not?
3. Have you ever sold or given up something of value so that you could buy something more worthwhile? What was it?
4. What would you say is your most prized possession? Would you trade it in order to have eternal life with Jesus? If not, why do you put more importance on this possession than your relationship with Jesus?

**Obstacles to living out the Gospel:** Love of possessions over love of God.