

Lk 14-23 When the hour came, He reclined *at the table*, and the apostles with Him. <sup>15</sup> And He said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; <sup>16</sup> for I say to you, I shall not eat it *again* until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." <sup>17</sup> And when He had taken a cup *and* given thanks, He said, "Take this and share it among yourselves; <sup>18</sup> for I say to you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine from now on until the kingdom of God comes." <sup>19</sup> *And when He had taken some bread and given thanks, He broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is My body, which is being given for you; do this in remembrance of Me."* <sup>20</sup> *And in the same way He took the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup, which is poured out for you, is the new covenant in My blood."* <sup>21</sup> But behold, the hand of the one betraying Me is with <sup>[a]</sup>Mine on the table. <sup>22</sup> For indeed, the Son of Man is going as it has been determined; but woe to that man by whom He is betrayed!" <sup>23</sup> And they began to debate among themselves which one of them it was who was going to do this.

Forgiveness and healing

Have you ever expected one thing and got another? Mrs head did on Nov. 27<sup>th</sup> 2013

Is 64:3 When You did awesome things which we did not expect, You came down, the mountains quaked at Your presence. (Power from above-moves obstacles)

1. It is so easy to come to expect certain outcomes that we see and or plan for

2. Its also very difficult at times to pivot when are expectations are not met

3. Thank God – our expectations do not have the last word

Heb 12:24 – His Blood speaks a better word

4. Today I want to call you into faith – to look for the treasure!

## Title: Unexpected treasure

### II. Have you ever considered how Jesus called and recruited His disciples?

- A. in all 4 accounts in the gospels of Mt Mk Lk Jn we see Jesus recruiting AVG people to
- B. His recruiting speeches simple? Follow me, come and see, make you fishers of men...
- C. It was obviously not his many words and motivating arguments- there was something else

1. These men were leaving their careers, families, assets, tools - in Mt 9:9 Levi was actually sitting at his tax collecting booth when "Jesus said follow me - He got up and followed Him" - He left his booth/aka his bank – Ordinary people w jobs, families, bills, in-laws, Holiday meals, worries

2. There must be something significant going on in order for men to leave their jobs, income, identities.

### III. So why did they do it, what was it about Jesus that moved people so extravagantly and with few words?.

- A. What did they see that compelled them so? I promise you it was not religion
- B. Jesus was asking people a similar question about John the baptist in Mt. 11:9

**Mt. 11:9** As these men were going *away*, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John, "What did you go out into <sup>a</sup>the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? But what did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft *clothing*? Those who wear soft *clothing* are in kings' <sup>2</sup>palaces! <sup>9</sup>

<sup>1</sup>"But what did you go out to see? <sup>a</sup>A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and one who is more than a prophet.

- C. So what did they see? Why do we hear stories about people taking such extravagant risks for the gospel or hearing and seeing someone's life completely change and their explanation is i received Jesus!

- D. These men and women saw the treasure -

### IV. The bible says:

**Mt. 13:44** The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in the field, which a man found and hid *again*; and from joy over it he goes and <sup>b</sup>sells all that he has and buys that field.

- A. Seeing the treasure is the key to understanding why people do such extravagant things.
- B. Seeing the treasure is the key to walking out of old things and into the new!
- C. Seeing the treasure is the key to opening any prison doors

**D. The kingdom of God is the treasure/ trumps our expectations**

## **V. So how do you and i see and embrace the treasure?**

**My father-in-law was notorious for burying his money in coffee cans.**

**A. It often comes when we are least expecting it! It doesn't work when it is forced.**

The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in the field...

**B. Comes when we are engaged in daily work/life**

which a man found and hid *again*.

**1. Just digging one day and your shovel hits something metal.**

We don't tend to see the treasure when we are busy searching for the next "big thing". The treasure finds us at the place of resolve, when we have resolved to be faithful to the process.

**C. Requires movement at the point of awakening and realization.**

"... and from joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field."

**1. One of my greatest fears is that I don't want to miss what God is doing with me because I was afraid to seize the moment!**

**2. If we want to receive the treasures of the kingdom we must learn how to seize the moments no matter how unexpectedly they come.**

**Consider this scene taken from Mark 15:21**

"They pressed into service a passerby coming from the country, Simon of Cyrene (the father of Alexander and Rufas), to bear His cross."

So what do we know?

- Simon was a real historic person in a real historic moment
- When we consider this story we see a man who was thrust into an unexpected unfolding of events
- Likely he was there as a foreigner - dispersed jew come to celebrate Passover with his teenage sons
- Suddenly thrust into this theatre of the crucifixion and forced to participate with our broken savior in carrying the cross
- One minute walking and talking with his boys, narrating the sights and sounds, to suddenly pulled and shoved and screamed at and commanded to, help him, help him!
- But my boys, whose going to watch my boys, its ok, its going to be alright, dads going to be alright! Abba! Abba!
- Then – reality sets it – this is that guy Jesus – I have heard about this man – he healed my friend – He was the one whom I heard about

## **VI. Bring it home!**

**A. We do not know when the unexpected comes, when "all the sudden comes upon us!"**

**B. We may be called into the Fellowship of his sufferings in a moment**

**C. But what we do know is that there is a treasure for you and me because of His resurrection power**

**D. You may be suffering now in some kind of way, you may be**

**E. I want you to Know that Jesus raised from the dead**