

## Study Notes based on Sundays 21 and 28 July

### Treasure

Matthew 6: 19 – 24; Matthew 13:44-46

1. Arlene asked 'Is something treasure because we treasure it, or do we treasure something because it is treasure? What do you think?'
2. Distinguish between earthly treasure and treasure in heaven. See 1 Peter 1:3-4.
3. Arlene spoke about seeing things as God sees them, valuing what God values. What does God value? See for example Ephesians 5:28. What is the implication of this for us?
4. How do you feel when you realise that you are God's treasure – the apple of His eye? (see Psalm 17:8)
5. In the context of Matthew 13:44-46 – What is the treasure hidden in a field? How did the man demonstrate that he treasured what he had found? Do we know what we treasure?
6. How much do we need to sacrifice to gain the treasure which is Christ?
7. Graeme argued that the way we understand what we treasure is revealed by the expression 'I can't'. How do you think this plays out? How do you respond to the suggestion that in our culture people want to accumulate more and more without giving up or sacrificing anything?
8. Are we driven more by what we want or by what we want to avoid?
9. Reflect on Graeme's assertion that 'if what you have doesn't move you spiritually, then it is not treasure'?
10. It is sometimes said that young people are characterised by FOMO (Fear Of Missing Out). In what ways do you observe this among Christians? What is the antidote to FOMO?

John S Smith 31 August 2019