

## Stories of the Kingdom Discussion Questions 7.02.17

### Leader Prep Section

Take time before your small group meeting to prepare by reading through the questions and scripture passage so that you can select 4-5 questions that are best suited to your group.

Try to work through at least one question from each of the sections - Hook, Book, Look, Took in order to move from observation to application.

When possible spend time in prayer for each member of your group.

### **Hook - Ice breaker type questions to help make the transition into the study time.**

1. Share a story of a time you felt lost and how you felt when you were found.
2. Think about playing hide and seek with very young kids. How do they respond when they are found?

### Background

Jesus once again is telling truths of the Kingdom using everyday experiences his audience will be able to understand. In these parables the focus is on small things that make a big difference.

Read Matthew 13:44-46

### Questions

#### **Book - These questions are designed to get you into the text itself.**

1. What was the man's reaction to finding the hidden treasure, how did he feel?
2. Who was looking for fine pearls and what did he do when he found one?

#### **Look - These questions will take you on a deeper look at what the passage means for us today.**

1. What was your response to being found in the kingdom of heaven? How can you hold onto that feeling?
2. Looking for hidden treasure and fine pearls would not have been easy. How do you feel when you find what you are looking for? How does that relate to the experience of pursuing our relationship with Jesus?

#### **Took - These questions are focused on applying the big idea from the text to our lives.**

1. How can we point our friends who have not found the kingdom of heaven yet in the right direction?
2. How can we help those in our lives to experience the payoff of finding the kingdom of heaven or being found in the kingdom of heaven?

### Closing

As you finish your time together take a few minutes and pray for those you know who have not yet been found in the kingdom as well as for those who are feeling lost or distant from Jesus.

Reminder: Stories are a crucial element used to help us connect with others, know where we came from and where we are going. As citizens of the Kingdom of Heaven it is critical for us to

know and tell our stories as they remind us of who saved us, what he has left us to do and where we will spend eternity.