



SEEKING GOD IN SILICON VALLEY

Part One: "The Pearl of His Presence"

Pastor David Cannistraci ♦ September 7, 2008

"The kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it." Matthew 13:45-46 (NKJV)

► When we _____ God with our whole heart, we will find the ultimate _____ in life.

THREE OBSERVATIONS ABOUT _____ IN LIFE

1. This man was _____

"One thing I ask of the LORD, this is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek him in his temple." Psalm 27:4 (NIV)

The Lord said to her, "My dear Martha, you are worried and upset over all these details! There is only one thing worth being concerned about. Mary has discovered it, and it will not be taken away from her." Luke 10:41-42 (NLT)

2. This man _____ what he was _____ for

"When you come looking for me, you'll find me. Yes, when you get serious about finding me and want it more than anything else, I'll make sure you won't be disappointed." Jeremiah 29:13 (MSG)

"I love those who love me, and those who seek me diligently will find me." Proverbs 8:17 (NKJV)

"Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need." Matthew 6:33 (NLT)

3. He sold _____ he had and _____ the price

Pearl (Cont'd)

THE _____ FOR THE PEARL OF HIS PRESENCE:

- We must get _____.
- We must embrace the purpose of _____.

"My suffering was good for me, for it taught me to pay attention to your decrees." Psalm 119:71 (NLT)

- We must deal with _____.
- We must give it our _____.

HONEST TO GOD...

- ❖ Where is my hunger for God? Is He my greatest priority?
- ❖ What keeps me from seeking Christ first in my life?
- ❖ What price am I willing to pay to know Christ more?

LORD GOD, You are the pearl of great price in my life. I need you more than I even realize. As my Lord and Savior, awaken my heart to seek you. Fill the void in my life with your love, and bring me to a fulfilling life that honors you. In Christ's Name I pray, AMEN

RESOURCES FOR THIS WEEK'S SMALL GROUPS

Icebreaker: Share three things you couldn't live without.

Scripture Focus: Let each member share a verse from this teaching-- one that spoke to them personally. What does it mean to them?

Discussion Focus: How can believers stay hungry for God in the midst of the fast paced life of Silicon Valley?

Prayer Focus: Pray for a greater hunger for God in each person's life.

REMEMBER to give an offering for the needy in your group this week, for God has promised us a rich reward (Det. 15:11, Psalm 41:1)