



The Plot

Focus Just as every show has a plot, the Bible does too. The main plot of the Bible is that Jesus gave up everything to bring us back to God.

Fun Tell a story of something funny that happened to you when you were traveling.

Review Key Scriptures: Romans 5:8; Matthew 13:44; Luke 15:4–10

The parable in Matthew 13:44 summarizes the plot of the whole Bible. The field in the story is *not* the kingdom of heaven, but the world. The man who sold everything represents Jesus, and you and I are represented by the treasure. Here is what the parable teaches us about the kingdom of God:

- *It's all about Jesus finding you.* Just as the shepherd searched for the lost sheep and the woman searched for the lost coin (Luke 15), God searches for and pursues us to bring us back to Him.
- *It's all about Jesus buying you.* Jesus paid for the sins of the whole world because He sees us as valuable treasure. He gave us free will to choose to follow Him. (1 Corinthians 6:20; Hebrews 9:12; 2 Corinthians 5:19)
- *It's all about Jesus hiding you.* Nothing can separate us from His love. No one can snatch us out of His hand. The Holy Spirit keeps us connected to God. (Colossians 3:3; John 10:27–29; Romans 8:38–39; Ephesians 1:13-14)
- *It's all about Jesus rejoicing over you.* Jesus finds great joy in finding, buying and hiding us. (Hebrews 12:2; Exodus 19:5; Matthew 13:45–46)

Group Dynamics Idea Invite specific people in the group to help with specific tasks, such as bringing snacks, organizing fun events, leading worship, setting up a Facebook page, etc. This gives people an opportunity to invest in the group and to develop their gifts.

- Discuss**
1. What stood out to you from this message? Did you gain a new perspective on the parable of the field in Matthew 13?
 2. Read Luke 15:4–10. Where did Jesus find you? Where were you when you committed your life to following Him?
 3. Jesus bought us with His own blood, which makes us valuable treasure to God. In light of this value He has given us, how we are called to treat other people?
 4. In what ways does the Holy Spirit act as a tether who keeps us connected to God?
 5. Read Zephaniah 3:17. Why do we as believers sometimes doubt that God rejoices over us? How do we know that God delights in us and is with us?

- Take Home**
- As we conclude, remember the following:
- God wants to find us.
 - Jesus bought us with His own blood.
 - God gave us His Holy Spirit as a guarantee that nothing can snatch us out of His hand.
 - Jesus and the angels in heaven rejoice when a person commits their life to God.

Pray Pray for friends and relatives who are lost and don't know Jesus. Also pray that everyone in your group will grow in their understanding that Jesus rejoices over them.

New Leader Tip Prayer is the best foundation you can lay for your group. Pray regularly for your group—for the meeting itself, and for each person who comes. The Holy Spirit will help you as a leader, and He will do beyond what you can imagine in the lives of the people you serve!