

GOD'S GOOD GIFT

Matthew 13:44-45

BURNABY
PACIFIC GRACE
MB CHURCH

AUGUST 27, 2017

SHERMAN LAU



2017 Missions Fest Highlights

- 243 ministry and missions organizations were represented of which 24 were first time exhibitors;
- Average attendance per General Session was 1200;
- 2100 youth attended the Youth & Young Adult Rally of which approximately 500 youth committed or rededicated their lives to Jesus;
- 550 volunteers served over the weekend.

A Gathering of the Body of Christ from all over the Lower Mainland

VOICES TOGETHER



JULY 1st 2017

How can you get involved?

Pray

Pray for the conference

Sponsor

Sponsor the conference as a church

Volunteer

Become a volunteer

Come

Come explore missions opportunities

God's Good Gift

- What is the most expensive gift you ever received?
- What is the most favourite gift you received?
- What is your most cherished gift?

God's Good Gift

- God gives His people good gifts
- Refer to Luke 11:11-13

God's Good Gift

- What do we do with the gifts we are given?

God's Good Gift

- The Parables of the Hidden Treasure and Pearl of Great Value
- Matthew 13:44-45

God's Good Gift

- Part of a collection of parables starting at Matthew 13:1
- Matthew 12 is the turning point of Jesus' ministry as it establishes Him as the *Messiah (christos)* anointed with God's power and authority
- Moves from miracle healing to teaching and contends that even signs and wonders are not enough for people to believe

God's Good Gift

- Based on Matthew 12:46-50, Jesus is in his home town of Bethsaida, a backwater fishing village
- Jesus teaches by using parables i.e. illustration that makes a comparison between known truth and unknown truth about the kingdom of heaven (God)
- Jesus the Messiah is anointed by God to establish His rule and reign on His people's hearts and not national redemption

Parable of the Hidden Treasure

- Relatable story as it was the practice that people would bury their treasures as there were no banks
- One interpretation is that the kingdom of heaven is of such great value that one should be willing to give up all one has to gain it

Parable of the Hidden Treasure

- Jesus has come to establish God's rule and reign in His people's hearts
- Israel is God's "treasured possession", that He sold all He had i.e. His Son in order to purchase the treasure
- Refer Ex. 19:5, Ps. 135:4, John 17:5, 2 Cor. 8-9, Phil 2:5-8

Parable of the Pearl of Great Value

- Simple parable easily understood that the kingdom of heaven is of great value that we should give up everything for it
- If the treasure in the field are the people of Israel, who does the pearl represent?

Parable of the Pearl of Great Value

- Jesus has come to establish God's rule and reign in all people's hearts
- The merchant who sold everything he had in order to buy the highly valued pearl represents Jesus Christ who through His death provided redemption for those He would believe

God's Good Gift

- Parable of the Hidden Treasure
 - Christ came to purchase (redeem) Israel, God's treasure possession
- Parable of the Pearl
 - Christ gave His life to provide redemption for all peoples (Creation)

God's Good Gift

This was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah:

18 ^s“Behold, my ^tservant whom I have chosen, my beloved with whom my soul is well pleased.

^uI will put my Spirit upon him, and he will proclaim justice to the Gentiles.

19 He will not quarrel or cry aloud, nor will anyone hear his voice in the streets;

20 a bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not quench, until he brings justice to victory;

21 ^vand in his name the Gentiles will hope.”

Matthew 12:17-21

God's Good Gift

- What do we do with the gifts we are given?

God's Good Gift

- Excited but then we return it
- Play with it a while and then forget about it
- Some gifts we treasure

God's Good Gift

- It is important to know we are God's treasure
- Both parables talk about the high cost of purchase
- Both parables seem to indicate that the man who bought the field and merchant who bought the pearl, kept it for themselves

God's Good Gift

- Jesus is God's Good Gift to redeem Creation whom are both Israel and Gentiles
- Many will choose to believe and many will not
- As God's treasured people, God desires to be the treasure in our hearts that we give away as we grow faithfully and live righteously

God's Good Gift

- What will we do with the Gift we have received?