

## LESSON 8

## Joy for the Kingdom

**D**o you want to live forever? Sometimes when our lives are going well, we aren't very enthusiastic about Jesus coming back and changing things. If he did come back, maybe we wouldn't be able to get married, or go to university, or go travelling, or buy a house... We can start thinking that this life isn't all that bad. But when things aren't going well, when someone we love gets very sick or dies, or when we come across evidence of how polluted and sick parts of our earth are, or when we become aware of the greediness and wickedness that exists in the world, we recognize how much this world needs a King who rules righteously.

Jesus told a story about a man who was out walking in a field one day. He came across a treasure concealed in that field. Perhaps it was a thick seam of gold in the rock. He covered it up and then with joy went home and sold everything he had to gather enough money to buy that field.

Another story Jesus told was of a merchant man who went around seeking beautiful pearls. When he found the most beautiful of them all, he went home and sold all he had and bought it.

Jesus, himself, was like the treasure hunter and the pearl merchant. He endured the shame and the pain of the cross. He lived a life without the comforts of possessions. Instead of doing the things he may have liked to do, he did His Father's will. He did all this for the joy set before him. He could see the treasure of the Kingdom and it was worth far more than anything he could have had in his mortal life.

There are many verses in the Bible that give us glimpses of what the Kingdom will be like. There will be a truly righteous king over all the earth. Everyone will learn about God. The sick will be healed. A beautiful Temple will be built. The earth will be wonderfully productive without the curse of thorns and thistles. The poor and needy will be cared for. And it will last forever.



It is worth giving up everything in this life. And it can be a source of joy for us. We can know that whatever happens now, in the Kingdom our joy will be perfect.

*"Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him."* (1 Corinthians 2:9)

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## WORKSHEET 8: JOY FOR THE KINGDOM

### ANSWERS FROM THE BIBLE:

What do these verses say about the Kingdom of God?

Isaiah 2:3 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Isaiah 2:4 \_\_\_\_\_  
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Amos 9:13 \_\_\_\_\_  
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Zechariah 14:9 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Matthew 8:11 \_\_\_\_\_  
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### WORD STUDY:

#### **"kingdom of Heaven"**

Look up "kingdom" in your concordance. See how many other parables about the kingdom you can find in Matthew.

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### APPLICATION:

The pearl merchant sold all he had to buy the pearl. We can't sell our possessions and buy the Kingdom, so how can we make sure that we have it in the end?

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