

## ● WARM UP

Every day we make choices. Mostly they are small - such as what to wear, or what to have for a meal, or maybe whether to carry an umbrella, or what programme to watch, or whether to surf the internet. However, if we add up all our little choices in a day or in a week, we can look at the outline of what we are prioritising in our lives. How we spend our discretionary time, our time when we do not have to be doing anything else, tells a story of what is important to us.

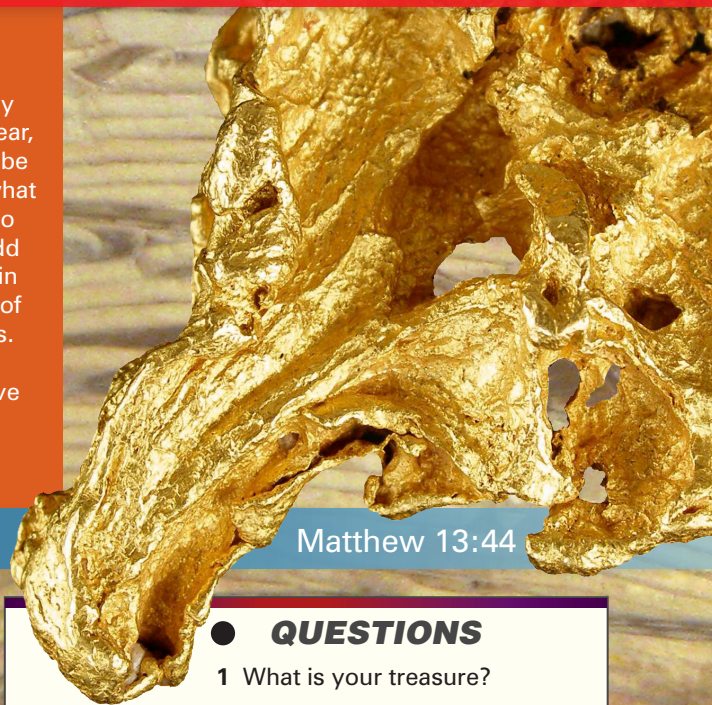
## ● READ Matthew 6:19-21,

Matthew 13:44

## ● BACKGROUND

We are exhorted to prepare for eternity by *"laying up treasures in heaven"*. The first verse points out that what we focus on we become passionate about. If we choose money over God then anxiety can overtake us. Fear of loss can lead to loss of faith.

The second verse points out that the kingdom of heaven is always available to us in our familiar daily life. However if we only scan the surface we may miss it for years. If we search for it we find that it was there all along. This man shows real focus by forsaking and selling all he has to obtain the treasure!



## ● QUESTIONS

1 What is your treasure?

2 Is what you are prioritising a good use of your time?

3 Do you need to make change somewhere? (It might only be small.)

**What is God saying to me?**

## ● LET'S PRAY

## ● REAL LIFE STORIES OF GOD'S POWER



*I've been to a healing meeting about six years ago and Bill Subritzky asked, "has anybody got gastric ulcers?" [He] prayed over me and I had like a fire shoot through my stomach and instantly the pain that I experienced for many months before was gone. I had a few more attacks in the next few days. But God said to me to rebuke the devil, which I did, and after about half a dozen times it never happened again. I was completely healed. Julius*

## ● CONSIDER THIS

Martyn Lloyd-Jones tells the story of a farmer. The farmer bounded joyfully into his kitchen one day and confronting his wife with a great big grin on his face, he announced to her that their finest cow had just given birth to twins, one brown and one white. He said, "I feel the impulse to dedicate one of these cows to the Lord. We'll bring them up together and when they are at a marketable age, we'll sell them and we'll keep the proceeds from one and we'll give the proceeds from the other to the Lord."

His wife went right to the issue, as wives are prone to do, and said, "Which is the Lord's cow? The white one or the brown one?" He replied, "Well, there's no need to worry about that, dear, or to decide that now, since we'll raise them together."

Some months later he entered that same kitchen a little more slowly, looking very sad. His wife asked why he was so sullen, to which he replied, "I have bad news. The Lord's cow died."

Why is it always the Lord's cow that dies? What is the "Lord's cow" in your life?

