**Open Your Bible Online Edition- Pearls and Hidden Treasure**

Matthew 13:44-46

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.

**45**“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. **46**When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.

1. Talk about a time when you experienced great joy at finding or receiving a treasure.
2. Read Mark 13:44-46 again.

* What have you discovered about the beauty and goodness of life in God’s kingdom that makes it worth it to “sell everything”?

1. We all have moments or seasons when we feel like we aren’t experiencing the joy of living in God’s kingdom. List the things that can block us from that joy.
2. Read Jeremiah 29:12-13 and review your notes from this session.

* Describe the situation that God’s people were living in during the time when Jeremiah sent them this message?
* How do you think some of them were honestly feeling about God as a result of what they were experiencing?
* What is God inviting them to do in the midst of all of their pain?

1. Read Lamentations 3:1-18.

* What do you notice about the people’s laments as recorded here in this book?
* What have you lamented in the past or what are you currently lamenting?

1. Look through your notes on Heather’s teaching. What is God inviting you to do with your laments?

* Write it out.
* Use music to help you pray them out.
* Make a choice to lean into God in this moment.
* Other?