

— THE — POWER OF STORY

Part 7

A Pearl of Great Price

This past weekend Pastor Mike finished the series The Power of Story. Over these weeks, we hope that you met with someone at work, your family, or found a place to do it alone or with a friend and grew together during this series.

Now when a large crowd was coming together, and those from the various cities were journeying to Him, He spoke by way of a parable. Luke 8:4

1. A parable has been described as an earthly story with a heavenly meaning. The parable we discussed in this weekend's service is about the price God has paid for our salvation (read Matthew 13:45-46; Ephesians 2:8-10; Romans 3:23 and 6:23). The merchant in the story is Jesus, the pearl are the followers of Christ, and the great price is His death on the cross to save those that are lost. Share how you became a follower of Christ.
2. Like an irritant inside a shell, Satan constantly reminds us how inadequate we are and how we will never measure up to God's standards. He uses guilt, shame, regret, and things like depression, low self-esteem, anger, jealousy, and defeat to irritate. God then turns those things in our life into a beautiful pearl. What problem in your life has caused the greatest growth in you? Reflect on your personal story and ask God who He wants you to share it with?
3. Jesus left His heavenly home and came to this earth to find a pearl of great price. He found lost sinners and died for them by shedding His precious blood. He sold all that He had to buy us and redeemed us to God (read 2 Corinthians 8:9). Stop listening to the enemy and allow yourself to become that Pearl of Great Price.
4. The book of Revelation gives us a description of the New Jerusalem, the future home of the church. There we discover that the gates are made of pearl. That was planned to remind us forever of the One who hung on a cross to pay the price so we could become His followers. Today would be a good day to give your life to the Merchant who paid a great price for you.

Close in prayer