



# Daily Reflections

**August 2, 2017**

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## Scripture

### **Matthew 13: 44-46**

Jesus said to his disciples:

"The Kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the Kingdom of heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls.

When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it."

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## Our Scripture Reflection

"What are you willing to give for something that is of immeasurable value?" is the question posed by today's Gospel text. And, what is that object? For the true Christian, it must be faith in and love for Jesus. But do we really live as though Jesus is first and foremost in our life??

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## Food for your Journey

A Florida treasure-hunting company's May 2007 discovery of a Colonial-era shipwreck, somewhere in the Atlantic Ocean, has set off a debate about who has the right to harvest the treasures of the deep. The wreck was an especially rich one: One coin dealer has estimated the take at \$500 million.

A New York Times op-ed article (Robert Kurson, "Curators under the sea," The New York Times, June 8, 2007) explains that such a horde "attracts a new breed of raiders who believe just as strongly that the treasure is rightfully theirs — and who get just as angry when things don't go their way. They are the academics — professors, curators, historians and others who study, archive and preserve historical artifacts. Many of them despise the commercial treasure hunters for, as they see it, rampaging through shipwrecks with little regard for the delicate history at hand."

The treasure hunters, for their part, argue that they are the ones who risk vast sums of money to find such undersea wrecks, and risk their lives on deep dives to see what may be there. As the Times article sums up their viewpoint: "Academics don't drag magnetometers and side-scan sonar equipment across the seas. They don't risk their lives, as the U-boat divers did, by removing their air tanks and corkscrewing through a labyrinth. They are not infected by the need to search, not bound to feed their families by keeping history beautiful. The treasure hunter needs to look, and that is always the way things lost forever get found."

For what do we "need to look" in our spiritual lives? And what are we likely to find?

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## **A Prayer from the Heart**

Dear Jesus, You gave Your life for my salvation. Help me to show my gratitude for Your precious gift by living my life each day in imitation of You. Amen.