Our scripture comes from Matthew 13:44. While you’re finding that, A father had two sons. The younger son loved school, but the older son hated it. He cried and fretted about having to go back Monday. The father tried everything. Then Sunday morning on the way home from church, it reached the peak. The father, at the end of his rope, said, “Son, it's a law. If you don’t go to school, they'll put your Mommy in jail." Silence. The father reached over and took his wife’s hand and smiled. From the backseat they heard, "How long would she have to stay?"

**Matthew 13:44 44“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.**

 In Matthew 13, we find ourselves in a chapter with Jesus giving parable after parable describing the Kingdom of God. Jesus used parables to give people insight into the true Kingdom. Some got it. Some didn’t. Jesus didn’t want them to live deceived by the rules and the philosophies that left them confused and trying to work their way to heaven. In Matthew 13:11, when asked why He speaks in parables, Jesus says to the disciples “Because it has been given to you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given.” Jesus quotes Isaiah 6:9 “Hearing you will hear and not understand and seeing you will see and not perceive.”

 The same is true today – how is it that one can sit in a church and hear a man talk of Jesus and surrender his life while the person in the pew behind hears and doesn’t understand? How can it be that one person can read the Bible and know that Christ is Lord and someone reading that same Bible doesn’t believe? It’s as Jesus said – To some it is given to understand the mysteries of heaven and some it hasn’t been given. Ask and it will be given unto you. One seeks and the other refuses to seek… they refuse to surrender and understand. God blocks no one. The block comes from within. God sends no one to hell… Pride drives and lust rides shotgun.

 In our scripture, we see that the Kingdom of Heaven is compared to treasure hidden in a field. We get the feeling that it’s been there a long time, that people walk by the field day after day and take it for granted. They don’t see the value in the field. They don’t recognize that there is treasure in the field… why? Because it’s hidden. It’s not obvious. There’s no big sign saying – treasure hidden in this field! They’re going about their life every day and seeing the glitter of the world and missing the true treasure. Remember that Jesus says in Matthew 7:13 – “Wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction and there are many who go in by it. But narrow is the gate and difficult is the way that leads to life and there are few who find it”.

 This man was in the field and he found this treasure - **which a man found.** The Bible doesn’t say why he was in the field. We only know that he found this treasure. He wasn’t looking for treasure. He unintentionally stumbled over this treasure, but he recognized what he had found. He had eyes to see, ears to hear. He found the treasure which is the Kingdom of Heaven.

 I don’t want this to be lost on us. He knew value when he saw it. In order to recognize the Kingdom of God for the precious treasure that it is we must have ears that hear and understand, we must have eyes that see and perceive. We only get this from the Trinity. Many walk through this life deaf and blind to the truth. Make no mistake, they’re willfully blind and purposefully deaf. God plays no favorites.

 The parable continues - **and hid.** Now this seems strange to us. Why would he hide this treasure? It seems dishonest or unethical when we read it, but realize that in those times that people buried their valuables. Remember, there weren’t any bank vaults. There was no deceit on this mans part – he buried this wonderful treasure so it would still be there when he returned. Interestingly, the same Greek word used here to mean hide, means treasured in Job 23 and Proverbs 2. This man found this valuable thing and he treasures it. Do we treasure God’s Word? Do we hide it in our hearts like Psalm 119 tells us? Do we treasure our relationship with Jesus Christ? Is it the single most valuable thing that we own? We are responsible for how we value our connection with God.

 The parable finishes **and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.** Before we go any further, had the current owner known of this treasure, he wouldn’t have sold the field. It wasn’t his treasure. That owner didn’t have the eyes to perceive or the ears to understand. This man wasn’t stealing anything. The treasure was there for the finding. It took this man to recognize the value of this treasure.

 It says – **and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has –** hear the eagerness with which he pursues Jesus. He doesn’t go halfway in. He goes all in! We get the idea that he runs to give up all that this world has given to him – his worldly possessions – all that he has!

 We must be that eager to pursue Jesus. We must be willing to give up possessions, places, and people in pursuit of our Savior. The scripture doesn’t say he sold some of what he had – it says he sold all. When it comes to our submission, God only accepts blank checks. Picture a blank check. Don’t date it, don’t fill in the amount… God says – make it payable to God and sign the check. God will fill in the date, He will determine the amount. We’re either all in or we’re not in at all.

 The parable ends - **and buys that field.** Very specific – he buys that field. In Christ, we either buy Jesus as the Bible reveals Him or we’ve bought the wrong field. Many buy a field. It’s just not the right field. If the man had gone and sold all he had and bought a different field, the treasure wouldn’t have been hidden there! The field would have been worthless. He would have wasted all his money and squandered all he owned. When people pursue the world, they’re buying the wrong field. He sold ALL and bought THAT field. The right field.

 We too must buy the right field. Not the field that says all roads lead to God, not the field that says we just have to be a good person to get to heaven, not the field that says we can continue in our sin and God will forgive. We must buy the field located at address of John 14:6 – I Am the way the truth and the life, no man comes to the Father but by Me.

 I ask you today – have you bought the right field, have you treasured it in your heart, have you sold out to God? Remember, we’re either all in or we’re not in at all. Be all in.