TRANSFORMATION – IT'S LIKE THIS - Pt 11 Pastor Harlyn - 3.19.2023 Matthew 13:44-45, 6:33

Psalm 78:2 "I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter things hidden since the foundation of the world."

Matthew 13:44-46 "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. ⁴⁵ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, ⁴⁶ who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it."

The kingdom is something...

- 1. we find 'in the _____ of this.'
- 2. worth ______ for, it's something we seek after.

"If we only had eyes to see and ears to hear and wits to understand, we would know that the Kingdom of God in the sense of holiness, goodness, beauty is as close as breathing and is crying out to be born both within ourselves and within the world; we would know that the Kingdom of God is what we all of us hunger for above all other things even when we don't know its name or realize that it's what we're starving to death for... The Kingdom of God is where we belong. It is home, and whether we realize it or not, I think we are all of us homesick for it." — Frederick Buechner

"If we find ourselves longing for something in this world that cannot satisfy us maybe it's because we were made for another world." — CS Lewis

Matthew 6:33 "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

"We want to reach the kingdom of God, but we don't want to travel by way of death. And yet, there stands necessity saying: 'This way, please.' Do not hesitate to go this way, when this is the way that God came to you." — St Augustine

LOOK IN:

- 1. What do you really, really,...REALLY...long for? Be honest.
- 2. What are you willing to give up to get that?
- 3. When you really want something, do you talk yourself into it? Or, do you honestly decide objectively what you should want and hope you'll feel like it's desirable? Which are you more likely to do and why?

- 4. What's it like to really want something and NOT be able to get it? How do you deal with the frustration and disappointment?
- 5. When you think of the words "Kingdom of God" what comes to mind and why?