

# PEARL *Adventure Awaits*

Sunday, September 19, 2021 | Wawasee Community Bible Church | Milford, Indiana | Pastor Josh Weiland

## Part 1 | Pray

Matthew 13:45-46; Acts 17:6; Matthew 9:35-38

### **EVANGELISM** is...

**evangel** = **GOOD NEWS**

New Testament Greek: *euangelion* — Gospel

“soul winning”?

1 Corinthians 9:19-23, 24–27

The kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls,  
who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

Matthew 13:45-46 (ESV)

helping people **FIND JESUS**,

how's your heart?

Acts 17:16; Matthew 9:35-36

how's your 'want to'?

Matthew 9:37-38; John 17:18-23

and it begins by **PRAYING!**

Matthews 9:38

prayer changes circumstances

prayer changes us

*Pray for those God has put in your path...*

*...pray for their problems, and the solution!*

**PRAY** *for them*  
**EAT** *with them*  
**ASK** *questions*  
**REVEAL** *your story*  
**LOVE** *them tangibly*



**What is this?** – Each week people from Wawasee Bible meet in small groups in various homes to learn about Jesus, pray, eat, laugh, and live life together. We call them Life Groups. The questions here are based on the sermon each week (often a parallel passage of Scripture), and guide each group's study. If you're interested in connecting with a Life Group, let us know on the Connect Card in your bulletin.

**Welcome to Life Groups!** This weeks questions can be found on pages 26 and 27 of the PEARL Guidebook.

### Conversation Kick-Starters

1. If you are comfortable, share about your fears with the group: Why does it feel scary to share your faith with strangers or even people you may know?
2. What part of discussing your faith feels most intimidating?

### Devotional Discussion

1. What challenged or impacted you from your reading and journaling this week? What about from the message on Sunday?
2. What from your processing this week are you feeling prompted by God to act on?

**Group Facilitator** | Consider picking one question from each Daily Reflection and discussing as a group.

Nearly all of the Apostle Paul's New Testament letters explain "who you are" before instructing "here is what you need to do." Paul starts with helping us identify ourselves before he explains our roles or what actions to take.

3. Read these verses and discuss what the verse says about who we were apart from Christ and who we are in Christ.

**Before Jesus, we were:** Romans 3:7, 1 Peter 4:8, Ephesians 5:5, John 12:35, Romans 2:9, Ephesians 5:8, Galatians 4:7, 23, Ephesians 2:3

**But in Christ, we have a new identity as:** Romans 12:2, Ezekiel 36:26, Ephesians 5:8, 2 Corinthians 5:17

*Second Corinthians chapter 5 explains our new identity and reminds us that it's only through Jesus that taking on this identity is possible. But Paul doesn't stop there! What else does God do? He "gave us the ministry of reconciliation." He entrusts us with His "message of reconciliation." He calls us His "ambassadors." Many Bible passages that speak of salvation echo the idea that our new identity calls us to demonstrate the Gospel.*

*In Romans chapter 1, Paul exhorts us that the Gospel is "the power of God for salvation," enabling us to live by faith.*

#### Get Your PEARL Guidebook!

We've published a 5-week daily devotional to accompany this series, complete with Group Discussion questions that you can use with your Life Group or with a friend as you work through it together. Get yours at the Connect Desk, or download a PDF and find other PEARL tools online at [youareloved.church/pearl](http://youareloved.church/pearl).



*In Ephesians chapter 2, the same God who saves us by grace, through faith also calls us "his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them." Throughout most of the Bible, we see that our decisions, actions, and even roles stem from our new identity in Christ.*

*God doesn't change our identity so that we can hide away from the world and wait for eternity. No! In our spiritual conversion, God changes our identity; our identity impacts our roles and changes our actions.*

*The Gospel is not just for the purpose of individual reconciliation. The Gospel does not just call each of us out of our old identity. The Gospel also calls us to participate in God's reconciliation of all things. The Gospel also calls us to live out our new identity, every day as His ambassador. Why do we care as Christians about everyday mission? Surprise! The fact that you call yourself a Christian, God calls you a missionary.*

### Group Reflection

1. What is your profession or area of study? What are some of the things you need to know and do to be effective at your job or area of interest?
2. How does your identity in Christ impact your confidence in evangelism?
3. In Christ, we are now His ambassadors with the ministry of reconciliation. How can you be an agent of reconciliation between non-Christians and God?

## Word Find in the Word

Find the words from a passage related to this week's message.

### Word Find for Matthew 13:44-46 (ESV)

Find the words **bolded** below.

44 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.

H	A	G	A	I	N	S	Y	H	S	V
B	G	F	C	S	E	L	L	S	O	I
C	G	O	E	S	H	F	I	E	L	D
F	B	U	S	P	E	F	K	A	D	M
D	B	N	T	E	A	I	E	R	M	L
E	B	D	R	A	V	N	M	C	V	A
C	O	V	E	R	E	D	Y	H	L	M
I	U	C	A	L	N	I	F	I	N	E
S	G	M	S	K	I	N	G	D	O	M
E	H	B	U	Y	S	G	S	D	K	G
F	T	G	R	E	A	T	H	E	N	Y
M	U	M	E	R	C	H	A	N	T	F