

# Share Short Stories that Speak Volumes for Our Lives

January 2024



## Take a Closer Look

*Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field" (Matthew 13:44).*

One of North America's biggest diamond mines was discovered in a very unlikely place—in the far north of Canada. Up until a few years ago, you couldn't even give the land away. Composed almost entirely of granite covered by a glacier, it has some of the world's harshest weather and sparsely populated countryside. But at times, some of the most worthwhile things come to those who look past the exterior and take a closer look. That's wise advice.

Jesus had similar advice in a story he once told. It was about a man on a walk who found a valuable treasure hidden and buried in a dusty, dirty field. An ordinary field is definitely not the backdrop Hollywood would pick for a movie about a hunt for buried treasure. There is nothing glamorous about a dirt field, and that's just the point. The man would never have found the treasure had he not taken a closer look beneath the plain surface.

It's easy to miss things. Jesus didn't have the most glamorous life. He was born in a barn beside a Bethlehem hotel with a no vacancy sign out front. He worked with his hands as a carpenter and spent most of his life around common people. Nothing special, you might say, just like that dirty, barren little field. But wait, take a closer look.

When you dig below the surface of Jesus' simple lifestyle, there is a great wealth of treasure. At Jesus' birth, angels sang him lullabies and kings brought him presents to mark the entrance of the Savior into the world. Some of those common fellows with whom he hung around became his disciples, bringing a message of renewal and joy to the world. By his death, you are given forgiveness

for every missed opportunity and failed attempt—and from the guilt that comes along with them. What is more, by Jesus' rising from the grave, you are given the treasure of life forevermore in the joy of heaven. And every day of your life, you don't need to worry or be afraid because Jesus promises to watch over you and provide for your needs. Now those are true treasures!

It's just a story, right? It may appear to be as simple as a dry, dirty, good-for-nothing field. But it is a short story of Jesus that speaks volumes for our lives. Come and take a closer look with us. Together we will unearth more true treasure from God's Word.

### Upcoming Events in January 2024

**At 11:00 A.M., our Tuesday Bible Studies are held at  
Siloah South, 2533 W. North Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53205.  
Phone number: 414-933-9700**

**Visitors, please join us on Sunday mornings at Siloah Lutheran  
Church for Siloah Café and fellowship at 8:30 AM, followed by  
Christian education at 9:00 AM, and worship service at 10:00 AM.**

**[Siloah Evangelical Lutheran Church](http://SiloahEvangelicalLutheranChurch.org)  
3721 N. 21st. Milwaukee, WI 53206  
(414) 873-5770  
[SiloahLutheran.org](http://SiloahLutheran.org) | [SiloahSchool.org](http://SiloahSchool.org)**