

Irony –

### What is the “kingdom of heaven”?

The Kingdom of God is where what God wants gets done.

“Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.” Matthew 6:10

### The Parables

1. The hidden treasure - “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field...” (44a)
2. The pearl - “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls...” (45)
3. The net - “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea...” (47a)

### The Kingdom of God is ...

- weak, but strong
- small, but large
- lost, but found
- hidden, but valuable
- old, but new
- priceless, yet not for sale
- already, but not yet

### Why we need this sense of irony:

1. We are easily distracted –
2. We need to see the importance of small things because we are small –

The irony of the Kingdom is made of two truths that appear to contradict each other:

- The Kingdom is more important than anything else.
- The Kingdom doesn’t always look more important than everything else.

To say it another way:

- What God wants is the most important thing for us.
- But what God wants may not look so important to us.

### What should we expect in the Kingdom of God?

1. Expect the long game –
2. Expect humility –
3. Expect a mess –
4. Expect more –
5. Expect surprises –
6. Expect death –