

## A-17 OT

A few years ago a TV commercial asked viewers, "What would you do for a Klondike Bar?" In answer to that question there were plenty of bizarre responses.

If we were to ask this same question of more serious aspects of life how might we answer? For example, "what would you do to assure the safety and security of your family?" Dozens of answers would be forthcoming regarding proper diet, health care, neighborhood watch groups etc. Or if one were asked, "What would you do to get ahead in life?" the answers would likely include study, work hard, be conscientious, responsible, etc.

With such examples in mind our attention is now turned toward the Word of God we have just heard. "What would you do in order to possess the kingdom of God?" Through the parables Jesus uses, he teaches all his disciples that the kingdom of God costs no less than everything we are, everything we have and everything we could ever become.

The parables are lessons in total detachment from the lesser things of the world in order to attach ourselves to the life of God in all its fullness and completeness. The treasures and pearls of God are not found in the things of earth but in the values of heaven. Such treasures are love, mercy, justice, peace and the wisdom of an understanding or listening heart.

Our lives are meant to be a time of discovering the holy and the meaningful. To find God means to live our lives with eyes of faith and perseverance.

True wisdom as spoken of in the Old Testament for which Solomon prayed begins with seeking the treasures that enrich our lives with the things of God. And like St. Paul "We know that all things work for good for those who love God."