

## What Good is a Buried Treasure?! Finding the Treasure God Has Hidden (in Each Person)

A physical treasure must be uncovered to be enjoyed, right? The same is true with the treasure God has hidden in each human being. I speak, of course, of the identity and destiny of every precious soul. The dirt, sticks, and stones must be moved out of the way before the treasure is able to shine.



We, at Noble Maritime Ministries, frequently operate as “treasure hunting consultants”, helping people find their true identity and destiny, which has been buried under emotion filled pain, wounds and sin. As more of God’s treasures (people) are freed to shine by design, then marriages, families, ministries and nations (Matt 28:19) will know God is alive.

I like how Pastor Kris Vallotton says it in his book, “The Supernatural Ways of Royalty”: “It is essential that the Body of Christ gets free from an ungodly, low self-esteem. We see throughout Scripture that when people get an identity change from God, they are catapulted into the destiny that once eluded them. Gideon was a young man who was destined to change the course of history. Like most of us, his low self-esteem had promoted a false humility in him that reduced his life to simply [surviving].”

In Judges 6:12-15 we see the Lord’s picture of Gideon’s identity and destiny buried under Gideon’s inaccurate picture of himself.

**Gideon’s picture**- I’m the *least* in my *poor* family. Obviously we are *alone, abandoned* by God, *no miracles* and *bad stuff* happening to us in the hands of the Midianites! Did God *really* bring

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### News:

Busy would be an understatement! Our family and ministry continues to overflow with favor, blessing and rewarding adventure.

★ **Boat Acquisition:** Thanks again for the extra prayer and encouragement this month as we had some highly focused God seeking time. He has said, “wait for it, it is coming.” We continue to wait on the Lord’s timing.

★ **Intensive Retreats:** One of the couples that came to stay with us this month was the most open, hungry and responsive couples yet and the Redeemer did a great work in their souls. One of them reported, “***I had never experienced true freedom from the pain of unforgiveness but through this ministry I was able to really give my hurt to the Lord and receive His forgiveness. I felt in the past I was a failure. I could try my best but my best wasn’t good enough. But I received the truth from the Lord that He is proud of me and my best is amazing! I can’t explain the complete peace!***” This young leadership couple departed with an expanded understanding of who they are.

★ **Port Townsend visit:** We took the ‘show on the road’, as the saying goes, and had a great few days in Port Townsend, sharing His healing presence and fellowshiping with leadership friends.



us up out of Egypt? Wa, Wa, Wa, someone call for the 'Wa'-Ambulance!

**The Lord's opinion** - The Lord is with you, Oh *mighty* man of *valor*! Go, in this your *strength* and deliver Israel. Have I not sent you? (implying that if I sent you, I have equipped you by design and empowered you). You shall smite the Midianites as if one man!

As with some of our ministry guests, Gideon wasn't immediately ready to receive the Lord's mind-renewing declaration. However, when he did finally receive it, he was transformed and was able to know (by experience) God's will (destiny) and had the power to follow through. Read about all of "timid" Gideon's exploits in Judges 6-8!

**Notice how, when one of God's people gets free, their life experience changes and nations are affected!**

Here is an interesting exercise for you:

Listen to your inner thoughts when I say to you, "You are no less significant than Gideon." And what is God's opinion?

Kris asks, "Isn't it true that the **greatness** of the King's subjects actually glorify the King Himself?"

"May God grant to us the insight to see beyond the outward struggles of people's lives and speak to the treasure that lies within them. May He give us wisdom to develop kings and priests...!" (*The Supernatural Ways of Royalty*, p. 84) We will continue on this pursuit as you journey with us!

*Thank you for your  
fellowship and support!*

*Neil and crew*

*Tax-deductible donations may be made to:*

Noble Maritime Ministries  
PO Box 1224  
Anacortes, WA 98221  
or with PayPal online at [www.noblemaritime.com](http://www.noblemaritime.com)

## **News (cont.):**

★ **Housing update:** In two months our home has been shown by a realtor only once so we continue to enjoy it as a hospitality tool. Recently a departing guest said, "you have just demonstrated the extravagant love of God to me, thank-you." He was referring to the beautiful mountain and waterview setting viewed through massive windows, great food, encouraging fellowship and the tangible presence of God's Spirit.

★ What a treat to have **Audrey Wood** from Nebraska with us for 10 days. She displayed the most consistently cheerful attitude we've ever experienced! As a passionate young cook, she took our hospitality dept. to the next level with delicious healthy food and beautiful smile! Audrey was a great support to Julie and Betsy in their roles and freed Kathy from the galley to emphasize some of her preferred giftings. :-)



*Betsy & Audrey serving up a fabulous dessert to 10 dinner guests*

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