## BURIED TREASURE



A man was preparing his field to sow the seeds. The dirt was good and fertile. Suddenly, his shovel hit something hard.

"How strange," the man thought, "it doesn't seem to be a rock."

He knelt down and with his hands he removed the dirt with great care. When he finished removing the dirt, he was filled with amazement and joy at what he had discovered . . . an unimaginable treasure!

"If I worked in the field every day for the next 1,000 years, I couldn't earn enough to equal the value of this treasure," he thought.

He knew what he had to do ... he buried the treasure again, very carefully, covering it well. He knew the law: if he took the treasure now, he couldn't keep it. By law, it belonged to the owner of the land, and he knew that sooner or later, the owner would claim the treasure as his own.

Who knows what this man would have to do to buy the property?

"I must sell everything I have," he thought. Maybe he would have to ask for money from everyone he knew. But he knew what he was doing. And he was willing to do anything to get that treasure, because he knew that the treasure would change the rest of his life.

After buying the land, he returned to the place where he had found the treasure, dug it up, and was happy because now the treasure belonged to him. (This story is based on Matthew 13:44.)