

Esther and Emmett talk about a treasure hunt – Feb 21

Esther: Hi Emmett.

Emmett: Hi Esther.

Esther: What are you doing?

Emmett: I'm making a treasure map.

Esther: That sounds like fun. Are you looking for a treasure?

Emmett: Not exactly.

Esther: Do you want to hide a treasure?

Emmett: Well...not exactly...

Esther: Sooo...you're not exactly looking for a treasure,...and....you're not exactly wanting to hide a treasure...but...you're making a treasure map??!!

Emmett: That pretty much sums it up!!

Esther: I don't get it!

Emmett: Well, I'm not sure that I do either...it's something Jesus said.

Esther: About a treasure map?

Emmett: About finding my heart. Jesus said that where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Esther: Yes he did Emmett...but...

Emmett: So, I figured that I should find my heart, but in order to do that I have to find my treasure, and in order to do that I figure I need a treasure map. So, I'm only looking for a treasure in order to find my heart. Does that make sense?

Esther: Umm...not really...

Emmett: I didn't think so....I bet this is another one of those times when Jesus said something that could mean something other than what it sounds like he meant when he said it. (pause) You know, sometimes I even confuse myself. Do you think that could be my super-power?

Esther: I remember the part in the Bible when Jesus talks about your treasure and your heart.

Emmett: You do? I'm sure glad you read your Bible, Esther.

Esther: Just before Jesus talked about treasures and heart, he was talking about WHY people do things.

Emmett: He was?? Did they do things to get a treasure?

Esther: Sort of...Jesus said that sometimes people do nice things just so that people will KNOW THAT THEY DID NICE THINGS- they really aren't doing them to be nice so much as they are doing them so that people will THINK THAT THEY ARE NICE.

Emmett: Know what, Esther? I think you might have the same super- power that I do!!

Esther: No, this makes sense. Jesus said that sometimes people would give some food to someone that was hungry, but then shout to everyone "Hey, did you see what I just did! I gave food to someone who is hungry. Look at what a caring person I am."

Emmett: But then everyone would then be paying attention to the person who gave food to the hungry person?

Esther: Right.

Emmett: But...but...wouldn't it be better if they also gave food to the person who was hungry rather than just saying congratulations to the person who had given food?

Esther: Oh Emmett. I think your super-power is your good heart.

Emmett: Really...is there a treasure with my good heart?

Esther: Well, saying that something is a treasure might not mean that it is a pot of gold.

Emmett: Of course not...so what else might it be?

Esther: I could say to you, "Emmett, you're a good friend."

Emmett: Gee, thanks Esther. You're a good friend too!

Esther: And, Emmett, I value our friendship.

Emmett: Thanks Esther. I value our friendship too.

Esther: Actually, Emmett, I 'treasure' our friendship.

Emmett: Thanks, Esther, I treasure...wait a minute...!

Esther: You got it! A treasure is anything we value, that's important to us, that matters to us, that we love...with all our heart.

Emmett: So, what we care about with our heart, is what we treasure!

Esther: So, if what you care about is impressing everyone, then what you love is getting praised.

Emmett: But if what you treasure is helping people and feeding people who are hungry...

Esther: Then you show your love by feeding people.

Emmett: Like Jesus did!

Esther: And like God does. God made us with hearts that are meant to love – everyone, like Jesus did.

Emmett: You know what, Esther, I think I treasure being loved by God.

Esther: And I think God treasures and loves all of us.

Emmett: I think my treasure map is going to lead me to God's love.

Esther: To the heart of God's love...and to your heart that loves. That makes me want to say 'AMEN'.

Emmett: Amen!