

# THE UNDISCOVERED COUNTRY

## INTRODUCTION:

- A. Whether you recognize lesson title depends on education and/or age.
  - 1. If older and have a classic education you may recognize phrase “the undiscovered country” from Shakespeare (Hamlet, Act 3, Scene 1, Line 56). Hamlet, who is contemplating suicide, uses the phrase to refer to the unknown that follows death
  - 2. However, you might recognize the title as the name of a Star Trek movie. In movie the Federation and Klingon empires, which were mortal enemies, face the new and challenging prospect of laying aside their struggle. The Klingon leader calls their challenge and the future that faced them the “undiscovered country”
- B. Let's use the phrase to think about the rest of our life as we face the unknown. We all face “undiscovered countries” in our futures

## DISCUSSION:

### II. LOVE (Note: Jhn 15:12; Jhn 3:16)

- A. The kind of love that leads to romance and marriage.
- B. Ideally, young folks had homes full of love, yet they still must discover this wonderful “undiscovered country” called love.
- C. All face challenges as we enter this “undiscovered country”
  - 1. Must rise above emotional and selfish aspects for its benefits.
  - 2. Must experience wonders of self-sacrificing love based on a choice to glorify God and serve fellowman 1Cor 13:5-8.
- D. This “undiscovered country” can potentially yield rich rewards.
  - 1. However, as with most things in life where there is great potential for gain there is also great potential for loss
  - 2. Care must be used not to cheapen love with sexual immorality. Young save for and older maintain in marriage 1Cor 6:15-20

### II. MARRIAGE Jhn 2:1,2; Heb 13:4

- A. In spite of all the negative things our society is saying about marriage it is still a wonderful “undiscovered country”
- B. No other human relationship has so much to offer in terms of emotions, friendship, and opportunities to serve God
- C. The marriage that serves God...
  - 1. Provides Companionship, Genesis 2:17
  - 2. Involves reproduction and training of children, Gen 1:27, 28
  - 3. Presents a picture of Christ and His church, Eph 5:22-33
- D. Beware of pitfalls that can rob you of the wonder of this “undiscovered country”
  - 1. Don't think about, much less talk about divorce, Mk 10:11,12.
  - 2. Good marriages are born out of conflicts and problems faced and solved together. Hard times can bind people together and mold them into unique oneness so important in marriage

- 3. Respect God's order for home. Women, respect and submit to husbands. Husbands, love wives with self-sacrificing love. Eph 5:22-28
- 4. These foundations will make your marriage an “undiscovered country” of love, support and mutual satisfaction

### II. WORK Matt 21:28; Mk 13:34

- A. Unfortunately most of society views work as a necessary evil rather than wonderful privilege and an “undiscovered country” of love and service to God and one's fellow man
- B. God made man to be engaged in productive, satisfying work. Gen 1:28; 2:15; 1Thess 4:11; 2Thess 3:10,12
- C. Only way work can become an intriguing “undiscovered country” is to view it as something more than “making a living.” We must see ourselves as servants of God and our fellowman as we engage in our chosen occupation, Eph 6:5-8
- D. There are pitfalls that rob work of “undiscovered” nature, Col 3:22-23
  - 1. Merely External Service; Men Pleasing Work; Half Hearted Approach to Work; Working Only for Selfish Reasons

### III. SPIRITUALITY Psa 1

- A. Spirituality is a great “undiscovered country”
- B. Sometimes we view religion and spirituality as the most boring life possible 1Tim 4:12-16
- C. Spirituality has potential to bring more satisfaction, happiness and peace to one's life than any of things discussed thus far. Gal 6:1
- D. Spirituality can bring peace that no amount of turmoil and trouble can take away Phil 4:4-8
- E. This spirituality is what David celebrates in Psalms 23

### IV. HEAVEN Matt 6:20

- A. Heaven is great “undiscovered country” for all Rev 21:1-5
- C. Must not take our eyes off the wonderful “undiscovered country” called heaven, Rom 12:1,2; 2Cor 4:16-18

## CONCLUSION:

- A. The Star Trek series is based on the idea of man going where “no man has gone before”
  - 1. The “undiscovered countries” that lie before us have all been explored by generations before them but they remain ever new for each generation
  - 2. This lesson is especially applicable to young people, however I hope will inspire all of us, face life with a greater sense of faith, optimism, and adventure because the remaining portion of each of our lives remains the great “undiscovered country” for each one of us. Let us explore faith in God, hope for the future, and love for God and for one another! 1Cor 13:13
- B. If you are not a Christian there is a great “undiscovered country” waiting for you to explore—a relationship with God