

Hunting for treasure is always fun, whether you are using a metal detector or dumpster diving. We have all had great experiences finding something great as a surprise, whether is it an old coin or an antique at a yard sale. When I was a boy, I loved collecting different types of rocks. I remember carrying a large rock for miles on a Scout hike because it looked like petrified wood. I still have this at my home. My son Zach enjoys hunting treasure as well (computer equipment especially) and went through a rock collecting phase, too.

Perhaps this had its origin with our regular trips to the Cherokee, NC area and the Great Smoky Mountains as he was growing up. One of our favorite things to do was to hunt for jewels. We would buy a bag of dirt for a few bucks (what a marketing “scoop” this was!), and work through it with our hands looking for gem rocks. We always found something worth keeping. Many of the items were obviously crystalline in nature, and therefore very pretty. But other “gems” had to be identified by more technical means. One of the great memories of these trips was when Zach picked a gemstone, a ruby, and had it polished and mounted on a ring. It looked very nice. It was a great experience, and it really illustrated how you can find precious things in somewhat unexpected places.

We are all precious to someone, and most especially to God. We may be only dust and ashes (Genesis 18:27), but He loves us anyway. We may not be able to see value in ourselves or others, but we are not in a position to judge. We must realize that we just need some spiritual cleaning and polishing to make us shine.