

Finding Diamonds in the Field

At Crater of Diamonds State Park in Arkansas, people pay \$8 and search for diamonds. Every year, about 200,000 people pour into the park to seek out precious stones. From 2007 to 2009, nearly one diamond was discovered every day.



Diamonds were first discovered at Murfreesboro, Ark., when John Wesley Huddleston found “a glittering pebble” on his land. After a series of ill-fated diamond mining ventures, the State of Arkansas purchased Huddleston’s former property in 1972 and established Crater of Diamonds State Park. It is the only diamond-producing site in the world open to the public.

Visitors may search over a 37.5-acre plowed field, which is the eroded surface of an ancient volcanic crater that brought to the surface the diamonds and some of the semi-precious stones found there today.

Jesus talked a lot about treasure. Some examples ...

1. He said if we find hidden treasure in a field (the kingdom of heaven), we should sell everything to buy the field (Matthew 13:44).
2. He said to store our treasure in heaven, because earthly treasure doesn’t last (Luke 12:33).
3. Jesus knew our hearts follow where we put our treasure. We pursue and are passionate about what we value. When we store up treasures in heaven, our heart is there (Luke 12:34).

Our hearts should be focused on heaven. Our relationship with God is our first priority.

What we do for others – for example, the service we give to our residents and their families – is a way we are storing up treasures in heaven.

– Beecher Hunter