

## Wheat and Weeds – Parable #3

### Matthew 13:24-43



This week take these questions to your small group or meet with a couple of friends to discuss these subjects and share growth, draw strength and join together in prayer.

**Matthew 13:24-26** “Jesus presented another parable to them, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. But while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went away. 26 But when the wheat sprouted and bore grain, then the tares became evident also.’”

Jesus identifies the pieces of this parable: Sower = Jesus; Field = World; Good Seeds = Saints; Weeds = Wicked; Enemy = Satan; Harvest = End of time.

1. How does the story of the Sower seem to reflect your church, your job, your family, your neighborhood?
2. Do you have the same problem separating the believers and non-believers in your relationships?
3. The weeds could not be pulled early, since the extraction of them would cause harm to the surrounding roots and wheat. How does that compare to things you do or do not let into your life and family?
4. Why is it more dangerous to uproot suspected weeds than to let them prove themselves to be separated at the harvest? How does this apply to church discipline? How does this compare to differing views in the church?
5. “Time will tell” is a common expression – does this make sense in this story as well?
6. Our instinct is often to ‘slash and burn’ when we suspect bad doctrine or heresy, what does this story call on us to do? Why is patience so hard with people we disagree with?
7. How will you show patience and a humble spirit this week with those you may differ?