

PARABLES

JESUS THE STORYTELLER

Sunday, June 26, 2022 | Wawasee Bible | Milford, Indiana | Pastor Josh Weiland

Part 5 | **Weeds, Wheat, & What to Do?**

Matthew 13:24-43

The world is filled with **WEEDS**

in the world, not of the world John 17:13-18

we're sent to love... not avoid... not attack...

2 Peter 3:1-13; 1 Cor. 5:9-13; 2 Tim. 2:24-26; Acts 8:1-3 & 1 Timothy 1:13-16; Luke 9:49-56; Eph. 2:1-7

but keep planting **WHEAT**

our job v. 28-30

small start... v. 31-33 (*a mustard seed... yeast...*)

and wait for **THE HARVEST.**

God's job v. 41-43, 47-50; Jeremiah 51:33; Hosea 6:11; Revelation 14:14-16

...big finish v. 31-33, 41-43; Revelation 20:11-15, 14:9-11; Daniel 12:3; Revelation 21:1-7

SCORECARD Parable of the Weeds

Element	Meaning (v. 36-43)
Sower	JESUS
Field	THE WORLD
Good Seed	BELIEVERS
Weeds	UNBELIEVERS
Enemy	SATAN
Harvest	END OF THE AGE
Reapers	GOD'S ANGELS
Fiery Furnace	JUDGMENT
Barn	HEAVEN



We're Glad You're Here Today!

Please register your attendance on our **digital Connect Card** by scanning the QR code with your phone's camera, or by visiting **wawasee.today** in your web browser.

Update your contact info, share prayer requests, or just let us know how we can serve you!

You can also access today's bulletin using the same QR or link.





Food for Thought...

Questions & Scripture for Further Study

We all wish God would remove evil from the world. But put yourself in God's place for a moment: if by a simple word of power you could snatch evildoers away from earth, what complications might arise from your decision? As one person has said, "If God were to destroy all evil at midnight, who would be left at one o'clock?"

- As followers of Jesus we live in an environment which is hostile to his life and teachings and to his way of love. What difficulties can this hostile environment create for followers of Jesus?
- How does living in a world hostile to Christians tempt you to judge others?
- Although it is difficult to live in a world of evil, this parable tells us that judgment is something we need to leave in God's hands. **Read Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43.**
- What title would you give this parable?
- What crisis occurs at the beginning of the parable (v. 24-26)?
- The owner's servants offer to pull up the weeds (v. 28). What alternative does the owner propose, and why (v. 29-30)?
- According to Jesus, what do the key elements of the parable stand for (v. 37-39)?
- What is the meaning of the weeds being pulled up and burned in the fire (v. 41-42)?
- Like the owner's servants in **verse 28**, how have Christians sometimes offered to pull up the weeds prematurely?
- What have been some of the consequences of this misguided concern?
- Do you see the field as the church or the world—or both? Explain.
- How does this parable help you understand God's patience and plan for dealing with evil?
- What hope does the parable offer Christians?

Thank God that he is in charge of sorting things out in the end. Thank him that he is much greater than the evil one.

Now or Later

Spend some time reflecting on the hostilities to Christ's kingdom that you experience in your immediate environment. What help do you need for living as a "child of the kingdom" in the midst of this hostility? Spend some time asking for God's help.

This week's Food for Thought is taken from John White, *Parables: The Greatest Stories Ever Told: 12 Studies for Individuals or Groups, A LifeGuide Bible Study* (Downers Grove, IL: IVP Connect: An Imprint of InterVarsity Press, 1999), 25-27.



Life Groups Return In the Fall!

Each fall and spring people from Wawasee Bible meet regularly in small groups to learn about Jesus, pray, eat, laugh, and live life together. We call them Life Groups and they meet in various homes and on campus. If you really want to connect and grow, you should get in a Life Group! — *Most groups take a break for the summer, so if you're interested, look for sign-ups in August or let us know on the digital Connect Card at wawasee.today or stop by the Connect Desk. Look for other opportunities to connect outside of Life Groups throughout the summer.*

A B T L G R O W L B K S C
W E E D S I S A I D C N E
A G O O D K L H K A R G V
Y A N O T H E R E S O S K
P N H E A V E N D K W C R
G J F V R E P L I E D O V
T E I E J K I N G D O M T
D S E R V A N T S P W E H
I U L Y W E G R A I N G E
P S D O H C E C A M E G N
L C E N E M Y S T O R Y S
A P P E A R E D O B C G A
N W E N T F P U L L Y I M
T F O R M S E E D T I M E

Word Find in the Word

Find the words from a passage related to this week's message.

Word Find for Matthew 13:24-30 (NIRV)

*Find the words **bolded** below.*

²⁴ **Jesus told the crowd another story.** "Here is what the kingdom of heaven is like," he said. "A man **planted good seed** in his field. ²⁵ But while **everyone** was sleeping, his **enemy came**. The **enemy planted weeds** among the **wheat** and **then went away**. ²⁶ The **wheat began to grow** and **form grain**. At the **same time**, **weeds appeared**. ²⁷ "The **owner's servants came** to him. They said, 'Sir, didn't you **plant good seed** in your field? **Then** where did the **weeds come** from?' ²⁸ "An **enemy** did this,' he replied. "The **servants asked** him, 'Do you want us to go and **pull the weeds** up?' ²⁹ "No,' the **owner** answered. 'While you are **pulling** up the **weeds**, you might **pull up** the **wheat** with them. ³⁰ Let both **grow** together until the harvest. At that **time** I will tell the workers what to do. **Here** is what I will say to them. First collect the **weeds**. Tie them in bundles to be burned. **Then** gather the **wheat**. Bring it into my storeroom.'" "