

THE KINGDOM IS LIKE...

PART 3: WHEAT & WEEDS

MATTHEW 13:24-30, 36-43

Don't compare yourself to others who call themselves Christians. Compare yourself to Scripture.

-Paul Washer

I. The Illustration

II. The Explanation

Getting to Know You:

1. How long would you be willing to wait for something really important?

Into the Bible:

2. In the parable the weeds are not easily distinguished from the wheat. It is only at harvest time that the weeds are bundled and burned. Many people have the belief that “good” people go to heaven when they die. How do verses 40-43 counter that notion?

Application:

3. Does the parable indicate that we are responsible for identifying the “wheat” from the “weeds” in order to get rid of the enemy’s influence in the world or the church? If as Romans 3:23 tells us, ALL fall short of God’s standards, what should our message be to everyone we know? (Ephesians 2:8-9)

4. With this parable Christ is making clear to his disciples that, while the kingdom of God had arrived in his person, his teachings, and his actions—the fulness of that kingdom would require them to wait. Understandably, they found that hard to do indefinitely and asked him repeatedly what signs to watch for and when the kingdom would come in its completed form. Read Mark 13:32-37. What is Christ’s response to his disciples on this matter? What should we take away from this passage as well?

For Families:

5. Talk with your children about God’s love for gardens and farms.