



Sermon Outline

Key verses

The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. ²⁵ But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat... ³⁰ Both will grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: "First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn."

Matthew 13:24-25, 30

What does the Parable of the Weeds teach us?

1. God's people stay alert

While everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds.

Matthew 13:25

2. God's people produce fruit

This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

John 15:8

3. God's people wait for the day of judgement

As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil.

Matthew 13:40-41

THE PARABLE OF THE WEEDS

JUNE 16
DISCUSSION GUIDE

Opening Thought

Jesus compares the Kingdom of God to a person who sows good seed in a field. While he sleeps, an enemy comes and sows weeds among the wheat. At harvest time the weeds will be burned and the wheat will be gathered and brought into the barn. This is a picture of the end of time when the wicked will be separated from the Lord forever in hell, but the people of the kingdom will be welcomed into eternal paradise.

Ice breaker

- What is your favorite type of fruit?
- Have you ever pre-judged someone only to find out you were wrong?

Dig Deeper

- What do the various elements in the parable of the weeds represent? (The sower, the enemy, the good seed, the weeds, the harvest, the harvesters, the furnace, the barn.)
- Why would Jesus tell His disciples not to separate the wheat from the weeds? Does this mean we should never be discerning or use our judgement?
- What dangers lie in trying to label people as weeds or as wheat? Whose job is it to distinguish between the two? When will that occur?
- What do the parable of the sower from last week and the parable of the weeds this week have in common and how are they very different from one another?
- In what ways can our overzealous judgment of the world and its evils harm our mission?
- Jesus says that at the end of the age, "*the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father.*" (Matthew 13:43) What does that mean to you?
- Read 2 Corinthians 11:13-15. What can we learn here?
- What stood out to you from today's sermon?

Closing

Our responsibility is to remain alert, love people, and trust that Jesus is coming back. He calls us to live and grow in this world until he comes and brings about a righteous judgment.