

Beyond Sunday

7.12.2026 — The Storyteller

The Parable of the Weeds — *Matthew 13:24–30; 36–43* — Rachel Taylor

Gather

These questions help build connections with others as you share personal experiences.

1. Have you ever experienced something that felt deeply unfair? How did you respond in the moment?
2. When life doesn't make sense, are you more likely to ask questions, try to fix things yourself, or quietly pull away? Why do you think that is?

Grow

These questions guide your group through Scripture from Sunday's sermon.

Read **Matthew 13:24–30** together before discussing.

1. **What stands out to you about the servants' response to discovering the weeds?**
 - What assumptions do they make about the master's character?
 - Why is it significant that they bring their questions directly to him?
2. **Read Matthew 13:36–43.**
 - Who do the different characters represent?
 - What does Jesus reveal about why both wheat and weeds remain together until the harvest?
3. **Read Matthew 12:46–50 and Matthew 13:1.**
 - How does Matthew 12 prepare us for the parables in Matthew 13?
 - What do you learn about Jesus' heart toward the Pharisees and those resistant to Him?
4. **Skim the other parables in Matthew 13 (Mustard Seed, Yeast, Hidden Treasure, Pearl, Net).**
 - What repeated themes do you notice about the Kingdom of God?
 - How do these stories reshape the way we understand the Parable of the Weeds?

Give / Go

These questions help us apply Sunday's message.

How does this apply?

Think about an area of your life, your family, your workplace, or our world where you've been tempted to question God's goodness because of what you see.

- What would it look like to bring that question honestly to God instead of carrying it alone or pulling away from Him?

A Faithful Step This Week

This week, when you notice frustration, confusion, or discouragement about the "weeds" around you:

- Pause before reacting.
- Bring your questions honestly to Jesus in prayer.
- Ask Him:
 - ◆ "What do You see that I don't?"
 - ◆ "How are You inviting me to join You here?"
- Is there one person with whom you could share part of your own spiritual story this week?

Prayer

Prayer Direction

Pray for eyes to recognize God's faithfulness even when life feels confusing. Ask Him to deepen your trust in His character, give you courage to bring Him your honest questions, and help you remain faithfully engaged in His work while you wait for the final harvest.

You may close by praying together from **Psalms 86:11–13**:

Teach me your way, LORD, that I may rely on your faithfulness; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name. I will praise you, Lord my God, with all my heart; I will glorify your name forever. For great is your love toward me.

Prayer Question

How can our group specifically pray for you as you seek to trust God in an area of uncertainty or as you step into His mission this week?

Going Deeper

If you are interested in exploring the themes of this week a bit deeper, check out one of these resources:

Book

- ***The Problem of Pain*** by C.S. Lewis
A thoughtful exploration of suffering, God's goodness, and why a loving God allows pain and brokenness.
- <https://www.amazon.com/Problem-Pain-C-S-Lewis/dp/0060652969>

Video

- ***Matthew 13 -Parables about the Kingdom of God*** from The Caffeinated Bible
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_mII_G8zkGM

Article:

- ***Why did Jesus Speak in Parables?*** The Bible Project
- <https://bibleproject.com/articles/are-the-parables-of-jesus-confusing-on-purpose/>