



*Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43*

## SERMON RECAP

In this exploration of the Parable of the Weeds from Matthew 13, we're challenged to confront the reality of good and evil coexisting in our world. This parable reminds us that while God has sown good seed, an enemy has also sown weeds among the wheat. As we grapple with this tension, we're encouraged to trust in God's ultimate judgment and timing. The message urges us to focus on our own spiritual growth rather than judging others, recognizing that only God can truly distinguish between the wheat and the weeds. This parable also prompts us to consider our own lives - are we bearing good fruit? Are we allowing God's word to transform us? As we navigate a world where good and evil often appear indistinguishable, we're called to remain faithful, trusting that at the final harvest, God's justice will prevail.

### Key Takeaways:

- God created a good world, but the enemy has sown evil alongside the good.
- We are not meant to judge who is "in" or "out" of God's kingdom - that's God's role.
- Evil exists in the world, but God allows it to grow alongside good for now. There will be a final judgment.
- As Christians, we may appear "upside down" to the world because we follow God's ways.
- Salvation comes through God's grace, not our own efforts



# GETTING STARTED

1. What stuck with you the most from this weekend's sermon?

## DIVING DEEPER.

1. How does the parable of the weeds help explain the presence of evil in the world?
2. The sermon mentions that we shouldn't be surprised when "children of the devil act like children of the devil." How can this perspective change how we view and interact with non-believers?
3. Pastor Sam says, "Satan doesn't care which false religion you pick as long as it's not this one." What are some ways people might be deceived by "look-alike" beliefs that aren't true Christianity?
4. How can we "take inventory" of our own lives to ensure we're truly following Christ? What does it mean to "love Jesus" rather than just loving the idea of Jesus?
5. The sermon talks about Christians being seen as "peculiar" or "upside down" to the world. Have you experienced this? Share examples.
6. How does understanding that God will eventually judge evil impact how we live our lives now?