



Growth Group Discussion Questions for Matthew 13:24-30
Week of March 17-20, 2019

1. Scripture memory: Memorize, meditate on, and be ready to recite 1 Peter 1:3.
2. Carefully read Matthew 13:24-30 twice. Then for Jesus' explanation of this parable, carefully read Matthew 13:36-43 twice.
3. According to Jesus, what meaning does each of the follow elements in the parable represent?
 - Sower =
 - Field =
 - Good seed =
 - Weeds =
 - Enemy =
 - Harvest =
 - Reapers =
4. Why did the disciples desire an explanation of the parable (Matt. 13:36)? Why is it valuable that we have an interpretation directly from Jesus? Do you find it interesting or noteworthy that the disciples waited until they were alone with Jesus? Why or why not?
5. The original Greek word for the weeds refers to darnel ryegrass. It is often called false wheat because, although poisonous, it closely resembles wheat. Only when the wheat is ripe, and brown, can it be distinguished from the darnel which is black. How is this a picture of believers' coexistence with unbelievers in the world?

6. Why were the master's servants told to not immediately take care of the weeds? (Matt. 13:29)
 - a) How does the request for patience with seeing wheat and weeds grow together inform your attitude toward a world filled with unbelievers?

 - b) What is your attitude toward a world dominated by unbelief? How should this reality affect how you live your life as a follower of Christ?

7. Read other passages about true and false belief in Matthew 7:21-27 and Matthew 24:45-51. What are the implications of realizing that we cannot infallibly distinguish between true and false believers? (1 Cor. 4:5) How does (or should) a local church address the fact that there will likely be unbelievers intermixed among the believers in the church family?

8. When will the difference between believers and unbelievers be truly revealed and who will be responsible for dividing the believers and unbelievers? (Matt 13:30, 39; 25:32; Mal. 3:18; 2 Thess. 1:7-10; Rev. 14:15-19) If the present age is not the time, and we are not the people to execute judgment, what is God's purpose for his people in this present age? How do you show that?

9. What is the final end of unbelievers? How does that knowledge impact your actions and attitudes towards unbelievers? What is the final state of believers? How does that impact your view of God?

10. What principles or thoughts had the most impact on you from the message on Sunday, March 17th? How were you specifically challenged? What points of application did you take away from the message?

PRAY IN THE GROUP: Pray that God would grant you a tender heart for the unbelievers in your life. Pray for those whose faith is uncertain to you. Pray that God would bring them to true belief and make them part of the harvest at the end of the age.