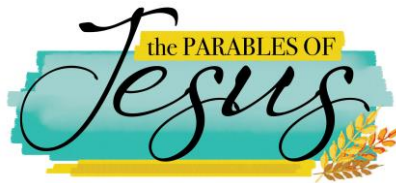


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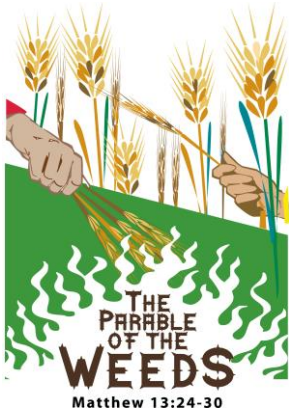
A *parable* is a story that teaches us something important.

Jesus knew that people learn best through stories. That's why when Jesus spoke to crowds of people, "he did not say anything to them without using a parable." (Mark 4:34).

Jesus was a storyteller. People listened to the stories Jesus told and learned about God and God's love for us through the stories he shared. As followers of Jesus, we are asked to share those stories as well.

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43 provides us with a parable and Jesus' explanation for what that parable means. Jesus doesn't always share the meaning of a parable, but this time, he does. I wonder why.

Weeds in the Garden



I wonder if you have ever helped someone in a garden. Have you planted flowers or maybe planted a tree? Plants need things like water, nutrients, and space to grow. Weeds can crowd around plants and soak-up the water and other goodies the plants need.

Jesus shares a story about weeds and wheat in a garden. The people want to dig-up the weeds, but Jesus says that will harm the plants they would like to keep.

Pastor Kendra explores this story in her sermon today and will help us understand why Jesus doesn't want us to be like the weeds, but also why Jesus doesn't want us to get rid of them either.

Where in the Word is the Word?

The Word can mean many things:

- The Word = Jesus, our Savior, God's Son
- The Word = The Bible, the story of God's people
- The Word = A sermon or homily spoken

From where do our Bible readings come today? Look in the bulletin and use that information to complete the table below:

Book of the Bible	Chapter	Verses
Genesis		
Matthew		

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Where are we now?

*Place an X next to each part of the worship service after we have done it
You can find each of these in the Worship Bulletin*

Part of Worship Liturgy	Done
PRELUDE	
CALL TO WORSHIP	
HYMN IN PROCESSION #139	
PRAYER OF ADORATION	
ORISON	
PRAYER OF CONFESSION	
SILENT CONFESSION	
KYRIE ELEISON	
ASSURANCE OF PARDON	
GLORIA PATRI	
CHILDREN MAY LEAVE WITH THEIR TEACHERS	
WELCOME	
MINUTE FOR MISSION	
PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION	
HEBREW SCRIPTURE	
PSALTER	
GOSPEL	
SERMON	
HYMN OF RESPONSE on page 10 in the bulletin	
AFFIRMATION OF FAITH	
PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER	
OFFERING ANTHEM and COLLECTION OF OFFERING	
DOXOLOGY	
OFFERTORY PRAYER	
HYMN #379	
BENEDICTION	
POSTLUDE	

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The Parable of the Weeds

When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared. Mathew 28:26 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Matthew 13:24-29



M A V W H F Q B B E W G Q I S
H R M P S Y I U K D Y H O A J
C L G A T U A E F I F H E O B
J F R R E A P S L M N Y O A D
O H O A Q W K R O D M G P T T
T T W B M C S X O E V V D P A
D D E L F G J E N O B U T O D
X A H E V T C E E X T K R J M
B G J A V I U C A D D L N C H
M C W H R M X Z Q V V E M J A
G Q C E R V J M D P V W V B Y
L G A R E L E X P A U P D U Y
S O W J B D T S E A G L Z R K
J W O V U T S H T S X B L N O
O X T V D G V N L L C M T I H

SOW	FIELD	GOOD	UPROOT	HARVEST
WHEAT	ENEMY	PULL	KINGDOM	SEED
PARABLE	HEAVEN	BURN	GROW	WEEDS

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Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.



J	R	L	N	O	Y	S	V	Q	C	Z	P	I	W	F	G	H	X	T	D	U	B	E	A	M	K
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

1. 12-24-2-24-22-3-23 _____
2. 14-23-23-20-7 _____
3. 16-5-5-20 _____
4. 7-23-23-20 _____
5. 15-13-23-3-20 _____
6. 14-17-23-24-19 _____
7. 17-24-2-8-23-7-19 _____
8. 22-21-2-4 _____

WHEAT	WEEDS	FIELD	SEED
PARABLE	GOOD	HARVEST	BURN