



Good Shepherd
Sermon-Based Study Guide

Matthew 13:24–30, 36–43 | June 28, 2026

Prepared by DJ Severin

dj@gspc.org (562) 493-2553 x115

I. Introduction to this Study

This week, we are looking at the parable of the “Wheat and the Weeds”. One of the hardest questions of faith is not only, “Why is there evil in the world?” but, “Why does God allow evil to remain?”

In Matthew 13, Jesus tells a parable about a man who plants good seed in his field. But while everyone is sleeping, an enemy comes and plants weeds among the wheat. When the servants discover what has happened, they want to pull the weeds up right away. But the master tells them to wait.

This parable does not pretend evil is harmless. It does not say judgment will never come. But it does show us that God is patient, careful, and unwilling to destroy what he is still growing. God is not careless with his harvest.

II. Connecting with One Another

Are you more of a “fix it now” person or a “wait and see” person?

III. Study the Text

Read Matthew 13:24–30

- What stands out to you from the parable itself?
- The servants quickly recognize that something has gone wrong in the field. What do they assume should happen next?
- Why does the master tell them not to pull up the weeds right away?
- What does the master seem most concerned about protecting?
- What does this parable suggest about the danger of acting too quickly in judgment?

Read Matthew 13:36–43

- In Jesus’ explanation, who plants the good seed, and who plants the weeds?
- What does Jesus say the field represents?



- What does this explanation teach us about the presence of both good and evil in the world?
- Jesus says the harvest comes “at the end of the age.” Why is that timing important?
- What does this passage teach about God’s justice?
- What does this passage teach about God’s patience?

Reflect and Respond

- The servants want to remove the weeds immediately, but the master tells them to wait. Where do you see that same tension in your own heart?
- Why is it dangerous when Christians become too confident in their ability to identify who is “wheat” and who is “weed”?
- How does this passage challenge the idea that God is simply looking down on the world waiting to punish people?
- What difference does it make to imagine God as carefully cultivating his harvest?
- How might this parable help someone who is struggling with the unfairness of life, without pretending to answer every painful question?

IV. Digging Deeper

For additional reflection, read the following passages:

- **Psalm 73:1–17** — How does this psalm wrestle with the unfairness of the wicked seeming to prosper?
- **Habakkuk 1:2–4; 2:1–4** — What does Habakkuk ask God, and what does God call his people to do while they wait?
- **Romans 2:4** — How does this verse help explain the purpose of God’s patience?
- **2 Peter 3:8–10** — How does Peter connect God’s delay with repentance and final judgment?
- **Revelation 21:1–5** — What does this passage show us about the future God is bringing?
- **Matthew 7:1–5** — How does Jesus warn us about the danger of judging others without humility?
- **James 5:7–9** — How does the image of waiting for a harvest help us understand patience in the Christian life?

V. Prayer

Spend time in prayer together:

- Ask God for patience when justice feels delayed.
- Ask God for humility where you are tempted to judge too quickly.
- Ask God to help you grieve evil without becoming harsh or cynical.
- Ask God to strengthen your trust that he sees clearly and will judge rightly.
- Thank God that he is careful with his harvest and faithful to what he is growing.

