

Questions for Personal Study or Group Discussion

Open

- Have you ever put on a garage or yard sale? What was your aim, to clear out unused things or to make money for a particular purpose? How well did the sale go?

Read

- Matthew 13:47-50

Observe

- What does the parable of the net teach us about the kingdom of God?
- How does the parable of the net compare with the parable of the weeds (verses 24-30 & 36-43)?
- Which of the parables in Matthew 13 are most clear to you? Which are most unclear? Why?

Apply

- Does the “already but not yet” nature of the kingdom of heaven affect the way you relate to the world around us? How?
- How do you feel when you read what the Bible says about God’s judgement? Does it make you want to “get up and do something?” What?

Prayer

King of Heaven and Earth, I it is only by your grace that I have a place in your eternal kingdom. I did not earn it, I do not deserve it, and I am humbled by your love and grace toward me. Teach me how to live as a citizen of your kingdom in this in-between time as I anticipate the return of Jesus Christ.

Recommended Reading

- The Shift Church 2026 Lenten Guides – Week 4