

COMMUNITY GROUP STUDY GUIDE

The Kingdom of Heaven Is like a Seed

Matthew 13:24-43

APPLY // JOHN 18:33-40**Main Idea:** The kingdom of God is not of this world.

1. Briefly define the Kingdom of God.
2. In what ways, do the “kingdoms” of this world and the Kingdom of God differ?
3. How and why are we tempted to live as servants of the world’s kingdoms? How does listening to the truth enable us to live as servants of God’s Kingdom?
4. Why is God’s Kingdom better? Why is Jesus a better King than any “king” of this world?

OBSERVE & INTERPRET // MATTHEW 13:24-43**Main Idea:** The kingdom of heaven continues to grow until “harvest time” at the end of the age.

1. *Most parables consist of a similar structure: comparison, story or details, and an end result, usually aiming to communicate one main truth. Remember and look for this structure as you read the parables.
2. **Read Matthew 13:24-30.** Discuss this parable. Based on your discussion, what seems to be the main point of this parable? What does this parable tell us about the Kingdom of heaven?
3. **Read Matthew 13:36-43.** What does it mean that “good seed” and “weeds” are spread in the world? What does the parable of the Weeds teach us about final judgement? Why is it sometimes difficult to discern who is and who is not part of the Kingdom?
4. **Read Matthew 13:31-33.** What is the common theme in both of these parables? What differences are there between the two parables? What is the main point of these two parables? What does this parable tell us about the Kingdom of heaven?
5. **Read Psalm 78:1-4. Matthew 13:34** says that Jesus taught only in parables. Based on the content of Psalm 78 how should we understand Jesus’ parable teachings? Are they meant to hide the kingdom or bring to light the kingdom? How do Jesus’ parables both reveal and conceal truth?
6. How does this passage point to the atoning work of Jesus? How does this passage provide confidence to those who are in Christ Jesus?