



## Harvester Groups

### Kingdom of Heaven: *The Parable of the Wheat & the Weeds* | March 22-28

**Prepare:** Over the course of the next week, try to read the parable of the wheat and the weeds in Matthew 13:24-30 and its explanation in Matthew 13:36-43 every day. Ask God to show you what he wants you to see and continue to mull those things over throughout each day.

#### Discuss\*

- Over the past week, did God help you see anything specific through the parable of the wheat and the weeds? If so, what?
- What, if anything, did you take away from the teaching? What encouraged you? What challenged you?

*Read Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43 again as a group.*

- What, if any, significance do you see in Jesus' disciples asking him to "explain the parable of the weeds of the field" to them (v. 36)?
  - Why not ask him to explain the parables of the mustard seed or the leaven?
  - Why call it the parable of the "weeds of the field" instead of "wheat of the field"?
  - What specifically do you think the disciples are asking Jesus to explain (i.e. What problem do you think they may have had with this parable?)?
- In what ways does the explanation in vv. 36-43 help us better understand what Jesus may be saying through the parable in vv. 24-30?
- What does this parable reveal about the nature of "the kingdom of heaven"?

#### Apply

- How does this understanding of the "kingdom of heaven" challenge you? Encourage you? Confuse you? Empower you?
- Think about the people who you would have grouped among the weeds in this parable. Does this parable affect how you view them? If so, how? If not, why not?
- How might you pray for these people and their presence in your life over the course of this next week (see Matthew 5:43-48)?

*\*Use these questions to guide your discussion. Don't feel like you have to go through all of them and make sure you take time to talk through any questions and observations from the group.*