



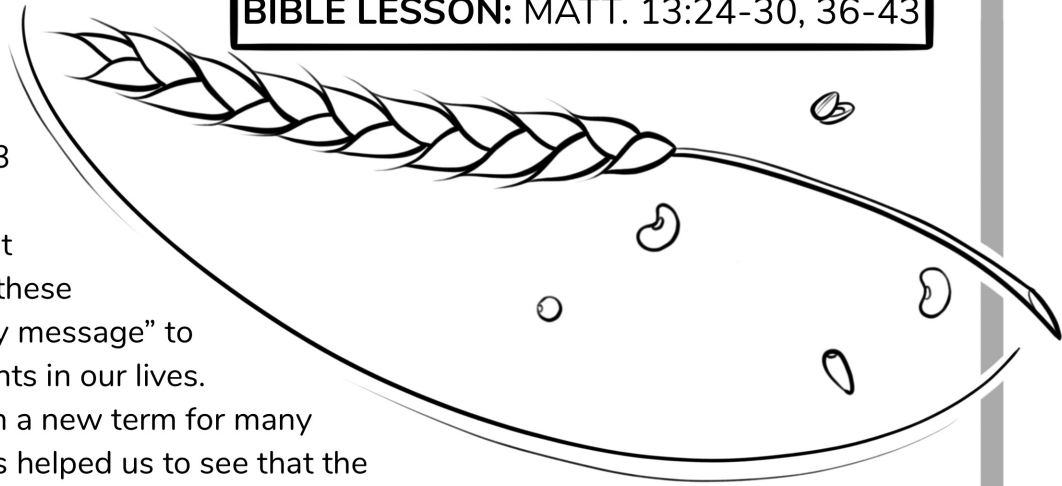
KIDS' LECTIONARY LEARNING TEACHING SUPPLEMENT

8TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SUNDAY, JULY 23RD, 2023

BIBLE LESSON: MATT. 13:24-30, 36-43

The Parable of the Weeds:
Matthew 13: 24-30 and 36-43

Last week we learned about parables and how Jesus used these “earthly stories with a heavenly message” to help us relate His word to events in our lives. While “Sower” may have been a new term for many of us, our pastors and teachers helped us to see that the Sower is like a farmer, or gardener.



This week the scenario is that of the seeds being surrounded by weeds and the growing plants running the risk of being choked out by those weeds.

In this parable Jesus portrays the master of the field (the Sower, farmer, or gardener) as calm and patient, watching the seeds grow into wheat, surrounded by the weeds and warning the workers not to pull up the weeds because it won't be clear which is which. The master is waiting until the harvest when he can clearly distinguish the wheat from the weeds. The weeds will then be gathered up and burned while the wheat will be taken to the shelter of the barn.

Jesus is encouraging patience and reflecting God's patient love for us, and His desire that everyone be saved.

We are not alone in our worry and/or distress nor is it a new feeling for believers to have. In the Epistle reading in Romans 8: 18-27 Paul encourages believers to have hope when he speaks of that same patience and the reassurance that God has sent the Holy Spirit to help us in our weakness. When we become impatient and confused by the world around us, we can trust in the hope “we do not see” (vs. 24).



Prayer

Let us pray together: Dear Father in heaven, thank you for caring for all your people so much that you sent Jesus to save us from our sins. Help us to be patient as we wait for you to gather us close to you. In the name of Jesus, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit who you sent to be with us. Amen.