

Sermon based Discussion
Matthew 13:24_43
'Hope in the midst of Weeds'
2/18/24

The weekly qualifier:

These questions are not meant to be answered exhaustively. The aim is to foster further discussion on God's Word which is rich, full, and inexhaustible. If you only get through one question, yet the conversation is robust and warming to your soul, well done!

1. Weeds, weeds, weeds are everywhere! Share and discuss how you have fallen at times into either the extreme of obsession over weeds and evil is this word or you have fallen in the other ditch of pretending they don't exist. What is it in our hearts that may pull us to either extreme?
2. What are the implications of Jesus being the Sower of the field? If Jesus is managing and in control of the entire world, why would He allow weeds and wheat to both grow and exist at the same time? What are some ways we, or the people around us, might doubt God's character when faced with this parable?
3. In our passage, wheat and weeds are seemingly identical at first. What is it over time that helps us discern evil and good?
4. The servants of the master, working in the field, are surprised at the news of evil. Why is it that we as Christians often have this same response over sin in our broken world? What is good about our shock and what can be detrimental about it?
5. How should the end of the parable shape our worldview, hope, and confidence in a messed up and crazy world? How is the justice of God a delight? How does this inform our urgency and love for others?
6. Inbetween the parable of weeds and the explanation of it, we have two short parables about hope. How does the mustard seed and leaven in flour shape our confidence in God's working in the world? When the weeds in our culture and heart grow tall, how does the beauty of these two short parables inform our daily lives?