



The Wheat and the Weeds!

June 23, 2024 – Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
Pastor Jon Pickens

The Parable of the Weeds

1. The Problem: The enemy of the wheat farmer seeks to **sabotage** the farmer's field.
2. Two Options:
 - a. Quick Response: Go and gather the weeds **right away**.
 - b. Patient Response: Wait until **harvest** time so that none of the wheat is uprooted.
3. The Conclusion: When **harvest** comes, the weeds will be bundled and burned and the wheat will be gathered in the sower's barn.

The Meaning of the Parable

1. The big question this parable is addressing is about the **timing** of when the Son of Man will deal with evil in this world.
2. Jesus will deal with evil at the **end** of the **age**.

The Implications of Its Meaning

1. **Trust** that God's delay in dealing with evil comes from a place of love.
2. Don't become overly focused on trying to rid the world of **evil**.
3. Focus on being **fruitful** wheat!
 - a. Pursue **holiness**!
 - b. Be **patient**, but be a **part** of what God is doing!
 - c. Live **peace**-filled lives!
 - d. Care about **souls**!

Discussion Questions:

1. What does this parable teach you about God or His ways?
2. What does this parable teach you about yourself?
3. Read 2 Peter 3:1-15. How do Peter's words parallel with this parable in Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43?
4. What is the Holy Spirit teaching you or how is He challenging you from this parable?
5. What action are you going to take as a result of what God's Word teaches?

Next Steps:

1. If you would like to become a follower of Jesus, please let us know. Pastor Jon will be down front after the service and would love to connect.
2. If you are interested in baptism, let Pastor Jon know in person or email him at pj@fbclowell.org.
3. Read the Bible with us to know God and respond to Him! Below is our current schedule.

June 2024			
Week 1 Starting June 3	Week 2 Starting June 10	Week 3 Starting June 17	Week 4 Starting June 24
Day 1: Genesis 37	Day 1: Genesis 42	Day 1: Genesis 47	Day 1: Exodus 2
Day 2: Genesis 38	Day 2: Genesis 43	Day 2: Genesis 48	Day 2: Exodus 3
Day 3: Genesis 39	Day 3: Genesis 44	Day 3: Genesis 49	Day 3: Exodus 4
Day 4: Genesis 40	Day 4: Genesis 45	Day 4: Genesis 50	Day 4: Exodus 5
Day 5: Genesis 41	Day 5: Genesis 46	Day 5: Exodus 1	Day 5: Exodus 6

¹⁵ just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep.
¹⁶ And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.

John 10:15-16 (NIV)

What action are you going to take as a result of what God's Word teaches?