



February 17, 2019

Matthew 13:24-46

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



Pray: Light a candle. Open your devotion with prayer.

O God, your ways are beyond our understanding and your mercy is wide enough to include everyone. May we lay aside our temptation to judge, and instead seek after your heavenly kingdom on earth. In Jesus' name. Amen.



Read: Read the key verses from Sunday's reading.

"The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat ... 'Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'" (Matthew 13:24b-25, 30)



Reflect: Reflect on the scripture summary.

Jesus' parables seem to leave many confused. But today's message is clear: God's kingdom is our greatest treasure, and it is this we should be seeking rather than the justification of our own views.

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Connect: Connect in conversation with others in your household.

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

What does it mean that the kingdom of heaven is a reaping of "good seed" and "weeds"? Which are you? How do you know? Whose job is it to discern good from bad, and to reap?

How can you grow like the "good seeds" in Jesus' parable? How might you make room in your life for others to grow alongside you?

For the littles: What does God's kingdom of heaven look like? What will you find there? One day you will live in God's kingdom of heaven!

Bless: Close your devotion with a blessing.



May God help you grow in faith and understanding. Amen.

Do: By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.



Buy or grow a bonsai tree. As you tend it, remember Jesus' parable, and the promise that God's kingdom of heaven is ready for you.

Go Deeper: Go to clergystuff.com/daily-devotions for devotions on the daily readings.



Monday, Psalm 84:1-7, *Psalm*

Tuesday, Matthew 10:16-42, *Coming Persecutions*

Wednesday, Matthew 10:26-42, *Coming Persecutions*

Thursday, Matthew 11:1-19, *John the Baptist*

Friday, Matthew 11:20-30, *Woes*

Saturday, Matthew 12:1-8, *Teachings of Jesus*

Next Week: Matthew 14:13-33, *Feeding of the 5,000*

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