

## SERMON NOTES: January 25, 2025

### KINGDOM Soil - Wheat - Tares

Matthew 13:18-43

#### I. What about the SOIL? - 13:18-23

“And the one on whom seed was sown on the good soil, this is the man who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and brings forth, some a hundredfold, some sixty, and some thirty.”

- 13:23

#### II. What about the WHEAT & TARES? - 13:24-43

“Then He left the crowds and went into the house. And His disciples came to Him and said, ‘Explain to us the parable of the tares of the field.’ And He said, ‘The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man’” - 13:36-37

## Life Group Study Questions

### **KINGDOM Soil - Wheat - Tares**

Matthew 13:18-43

1. It is easy to get distracted in this world. What do you do to help yourself stay focused? How does this relate to our struggle to hear spiritual truth from God?

2. Jesus reveals three different negative responses to hearing the “word of the kingdom”: distraction, disappointment, or dilution. Which of the three do you relate with most on a personal level, and why?

3. To be a diluted hearer means to give the things of this world equal authority with Christ and His Word. What does this look like, and why is it so deadly?

4. The discerning hearer is the one whose heart has been prepared by the Holy Spirit to receive God’s Word. What is the proof that we have actually heard and understood the Gospel? What is the evidence of this in your own life?

5. In the parable of the Wheat and Tares, who is the Sower? What does His sowing across the entire world teach us about His authority and intentionality?

6. Believers are loyal subjects of the King; ambassadors, planted by Christ to specifically represent Him in a geographical area. How does this change the way we should view our local church, city, and neighborhood?

7. Tares are called “sons of the evil one.” What does that mean? Do they all look like the name they are given? What gives them away?

8. The Devil is our great enemy who sows rebellion and leads people into false belief. What is the evidence that he has been busy sowing?

9. The age of the church will end with judgement, and the tares will be eternally punished. However, we are presently in an age of evangelism and spreading the Gospel. How should this priority season focus and shape our present purpose?