

## THE STORY

Jesus told this parable to teach the people about God's kingdom.

A man went out and sowed good seed in his field. But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, the weeds also appeared.

The owner's servants came to him and said, "Sir, didn't you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?"

"An enemy did this," he replied.

The servants asked him, "Do you want us to go and pull them up?"

"No," he answered, "because while you are pulling the weeds, you may root up the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: first collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn."

Jesus explained the parable of the weeds to His disciples in this way.

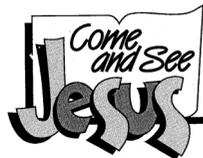
I am the one who sowed the good seed. The field is the world, and the good seed stands for believers in Me. The weeds are the unbelievers, and the enemy who sows them is Satan. The harvest is the end of the world, and the harvesters are angels.

As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the world. I will send out My angels, and they will weed out of My kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. They will be in the fiery furnace of pain and suffering. But the believers will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Heavenly Father.



## FAITH AND FAMILY TIME

- Talk about the story picture, and the children's activities. Read more about the parable of the weeds on Matthew 13:24-30,36-43, or in a Bible story book.
- Children (and adults) often want to know: "Why does God let this bad thing happen?" Discuss some evil things that directly affect your family. Thank God that the final victory is His (and yours).
- In your garden, let children pull weeds and notice that grass or other plants that might come out with it. Talk about how God lets all the people of the world — good and bad — live and share in His blessings until judgement day..
- God wants all people to become His friends and believe in Him. Think of people you can tell about Jesus so that God can work in their hearts to believe in Him.



## PRAYER

Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for rescuing us from evil and making us Your people through Jesus. Keep us safe from evil while we live in this world, and finally take us from all evil to Your home in heaven. Amen.



# THE PARABLE OF THE WEEDS

Matthew 13:24-30,36-43



Draw a line from the picture to the right part of the story.



A good man sows wheat in his field.



While they were sleeping an enemy comes and sows weeds.



The servants ask if they should pull up the weeds.



The wheat and the weeds grow together until the harvest.

The harvesters pull out the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned.



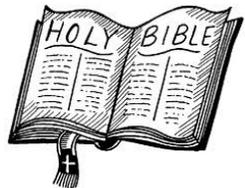
The harvesters gather up the wheat and put it safely in the barn.



### The Holy Spirit keeps believers in true faith

The Holy Spirit is the one who plants Christians as 'good seeds' in the world. The Holy Spirit does this by means of God's Word and the sacraments.

The Holy Spirit also keeps us growing as God's 'wheat'. He keeps us in true faith in Jesus. When we read the Bible or hear God's Word, the Spirit is at work, keeping our faith in Jesus alive. He wants to keep us growing as God's wheat until the 'harvest' at the end of the world.

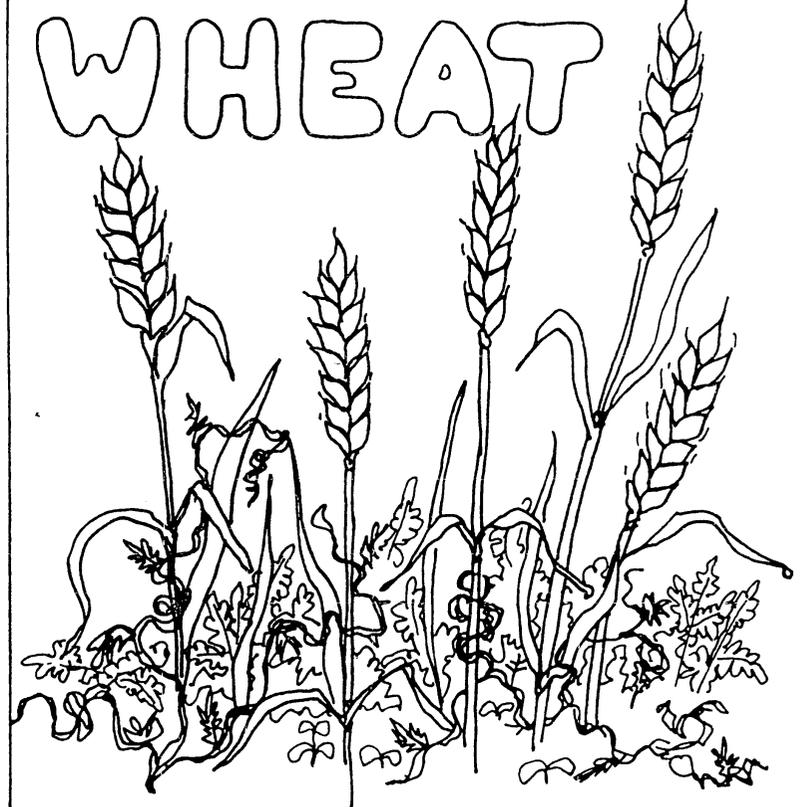
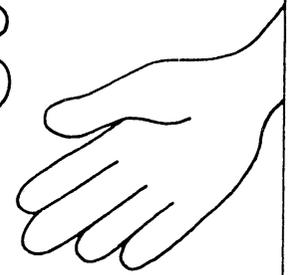


Colour the picture.  You may want to decorate it with wheat seeds also.

**Bible Verse**  
**The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack**  
**and will bring me safely to His heavenly kingdom.**

2 Timothy 4:18

WEEDS  
AND  
WHEAT



Number the sentences to show the order of the story.

- \_\_\_\_\_ A good man sowed wheat in his field.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The servants asked if they should pull up the weeds.
- \_\_\_\_\_ While they were sleeping an enemy came and sowed weeds.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The harvesters will pull out the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The harvesters will gather up the wheat and put in the barn.



**Bible Verse**  
**The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack**  
**and will bring me safely to His heavenly kingdom.**  
 2 Timothy 4:18

Can you finish these sentences from the story?

- The good man is \_\_\_\_\_.
- The enemy is \_\_\_\_\_.
- The wheat is \_\_\_\_\_.
- The weeds are \_\_\_\_\_.
- The harvesters are \_\_\_\_\_.
- The barn is \_\_\_\_\_.



## OPPOSITES

Use coloured pencils or textas to link each pair of opposites to complete the picture.



### About this story

The weeds in this story are called "tares". This weed looks very much the same as wheat when it is growing. Only when it is ready for harvest can it be easily identified. *How is that like people in this world? How does this story help us understand about bad things in this world? Even though bad things happen, who is still in charge?*



Wheat      Tares