

# SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE



PRINCE  
OF PEACE  
Called to Connect



## Weeds

September 16 & 17, 2023

We are reminded over and over again in God's story that God is God, and we are not. When we seek to be God, our stories will be incomplete and hurtful.

## SCRIPTURE TEXT: MATTHEW 13:24-30

Read the scripture text together as a group.

### BACKGROUND INFO

See... right there in scripture – there is “good seed” and “bad seed.” But wait, let's see what Jesus is actually saying. This is a parable of what the kingdom of God is like. Not what the kingdom of earth is like. The kingdom of God is not made up of two different groups of people. Wheat or weeds. God in Jesus Christ is building a different kingdom. God will remove our sin that makes us all weedy at times. And thank God that God directs the harvest. God does what only God can do.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Share a story from your life involving weeds - literal weeds - in a lake, in your garden, growing in cracks in your driveway, etc. How do you feel about them? What do you do to combat them?
- Have you ever been around weedy people or situations - grabbing at you, making you feel uncomfortable or wounding you in some way? Share a story about that.
- Have YOU ever been weedy - hard to be around, grabbing at others, wounding others? Share a story about that.
- Have you ever been quick to label someone “a bad seed” only to learn later that there was more to the story? Something “good” or redeemable? Tell us more about that. Have you ever been labeled “a bad seed?” Was there more to your story than that?
- In Romans 7:15, the Apostle Paul says, “I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate.” Does that ever happen to you? Explain with a story.
- Read Romans 5:6-8. From Pastor Dean's sermon: ***And there it is ... the outrageous good news we call the gospel ... Christ doesn't just die for the wheat, but Christ dies for us, even in our weediness.*** How does this good news impact the way you live and/or treat others and/forgive yourself and others?

**CHALLENGE:** Read Romans 5:6-8 every day this week and work towards memorizing it. As you do, thank God that God directs the harvest!