

Matthew
Gail Arterburn –2026

Monday, 9:30 – 11:00 am
To be discussed –05/11/26

Matthew - Lesson 18
Matthew 13:24-52

The kingdom of heaven (kingdom of people under the reign of God) was instituted at the first coming of Jesus Christ and will culminate at the second coming of Jesus Christ – both are found in the next six parables which are all introduced by the statement, *The kingdom of heaven is like.....*

1. Read Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43. Who is the sower of the good seed? _____
What is the field? _____ Who does the good seed represent? _____ Who are the weeds? _____ Who is the enemy? _____ When is the harvest? _____ Who are the harvesters? _____
2. Why are the weeds allowed to grow for a time? What will eventually happen to them? When? Who will determine when the harvest should take place?
3. What do you think is the main point of this parable? (What is the kingdom like now; what will it be like in the future?) Why do you think Jesus told them this parable?
4. Read Matthew 13:31-33. These two parables are similar. How is the kingdom of heaven like a mustard seed? Who do you think are represented by the birds? (Two very different interpretations are held and will be addressed.)
5. How is the kingdom of heaven like a small amount of yeast mixed into a large amount of flour. (Again, two very different interpretations are held.)
6. Read Matthew 13:44-46. What is the same main point of these two parables? How do they differ?
7. Read Matthew 13:47-50. How is the parable of the net similar to the parable of the weeds? What is the main point?
8. Read Matthew 13:51-52. Why do you think Jesus asked his disciples if they understood the things he had been teaching about the kingdom of heaven? How does it apply to them? What is the connection between these two verses? Who are the teachers of v. 51 *to be like*? What are the new and old treasures?