

"The Kingdom"

Week 2 – Wheat & Weeds

warm-up

Group Ice Breaker: SEPARATION

Have a small pack of M&M's or Skittles for each group member. Hand out the candy, and randomly assign each group member a color. Have a race to see who can open the packs and eat all of their color candy first.

word & application

How does God want me to live in this world? Where does the evil in this world come from? How do we engage the world with love in the midst of evil?

Adopting a God-like view:

John 3:16-21

For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through him. There is no judgment against anyone who believes in him. But anyone who does not believe in him has already been judged for not believing in God's one and only Son. And the judgment is based on this fact: God's light came into the world, but people loved the darkness more than the light, for their actions were evil. All who do evil hate the light and refuse to go near it for fear their sins will be exposed. But those who do what is right come to the light so others can see that they are doing what God wants.

Group Discussion: Explore these points and questions through in-depth conversation.

Based on this passage,

1. What is God's view of the world?
2. What was Jesus Christ's purpose in coming to Earth?
3. Whose role is it to judge?
4. What is this judgment based on?
5. What fears keep people from seeking Jesus?
6. How does Jesus intend for people to be drawn to Him?

Getting Personal: Share how these ideas affect you personally.

- What is the Holy Spirit revealing to me through the scriptures and discussion?
- Are any of my personal beliefs being challenged by this? Where am I being challenged to grow as a result of this?
- What am I going to do about it?

prayer

Ask members to shape their prayer requests to align with the principles above. Agree in prayer together over each request. Ask God to begin to reveal areas where our beliefs can come into alignment with His views. Ask that as this happens, we are motivated to live a life of love in the midst of a challenging world. Ask the Holy Spirit to give us creative ideas and boldness to do this.