

## Questions for Discussion and Reflection

April 5, 2020

### Matthew 13:44-50

We've provided these questions to give families or groups (of all ages) and individuals an opportunity to reflect on today's message. We hope you'll use them over lunch or dinner today to consider more fully the teaching of Matthew 13:44-50.

#### For Families or Groups...

1. What brings you joy when you think about your relationship with God?
2. If you were the rich young ruler of Matthew 19:16-22, what would Jesus tell you is the thing you need to give up that is standing between you and your relationship with Christ?
3. Twice in Matthew 13 Jesus talks about punishment (weeping and gnashing of teeth in v. 41-43 and 48-50). How has culture shaped your view of the concept of hell?
4. Take some time to look at the passages mentioned this morning on the concept of eternal punishment. How does the Biblical view differ from the cultural view?
  - a. It was prepared for Satan and the fallen angels (Matthew 25:41)
  - b. It is a place of eternal punishment (Matthew 25:46)
  - c. It is a place of conscious punishment (Matthew 13:50, 8:12, 24:50-52, 25:30)
  - d. There are degrees of punishment (Matthew 11:20-24)
  - e. It shows the true magnitude of sin (Revelation 20:10)
5. Read Romans 5:6-11. How does this passage say one moves from a sinner at odds with God to reconciled to God?
6. Take some time to praise God for His work done in and through Christ.

#### For Individuals...

1. Go back and read the parables of Matthew 13 we have covered over the past three weeks (Matthew 13:1-50). What are some truths that God has shown you in His Word from these passages and sermons?
2. Make a list of ten things you value most. Rank them in order of importance to the time and attention you give them. Ask someone you trust if your rankings of your ten items are accurate. How would God rank them?
3. If I have seen my joy in God shrunk or diminished, what steps can I begin to take this week to have God change my heart attitude?