


	Parable of the wheat and the weeds	
Presence of God	Considering how God looks at me.	
History Matthew 13, 24 – 30	24 He put another parable before them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, 25 but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. 26 So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. 27 And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?’ 28 He said to them, ‘An enemy has done this.’ So the servants said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ 29 But he said, ‘No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. 30 Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, “Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.””	
Petition	<i>Lord, may I know you more clearly, love you more deeply and follow you more nearly!</i>	
Contemplation	<p>v 24 The sower’s dream <i>Do you remember the parable of the sower? Who was the sower? What did the seed represent? And the soil? What kind of soil do we want to be? Do you remember the parable of the little mustard seed? What was that seed like? What did it turn into? What does God want to teach us with that parable?</i> <i>In the parable we read today, there is also a sower. Let’s imagine that this man sowed very good seed, wheat seed, to make bread and other foods. Let’s imagine this man sowing all day long, and then by the end of the day, he went home to rest. What was he probably thinking? What were his hopes for the seeds he had planted? What was his dream? Was he happy? After the kids share their ideas, you can tell them that it’s God who sows the good seeds in our hearts and ask them about the kind of crops (deeds) these seeds produce (friendship, etc.).</i></p> <p>v 25 The enemy sows the weeds <i>In the parable, Jesus says that during the night, when it was dark, the enemy came and sowed weeds, which is a very troublesome plant, among the wheat.</i> <i>Close your eyes and imagine this man’s enemy... Why did he do that? What was his goal? Did he like the owner of the field?</i> <i>After the kids share their ideas, you can tell them that it’s the bad spirit that sows the weeds in our hearts and you can ask them about the kind of crops (deeds) these seeds produce (envy, fights, etc.).</i></p> <p>vv 14 – 15 God is patient <i>(You can have the children retell the story by asking them questions) After several days, the seeds came up and bore grain; and when the servants saw that the weeds appeared, they were surprised, because they had sowed the good wheat seed their Master had given them. Then the Master realized that his enemy had sowed weeds to damage the wheat he cared for so dearly.</i> <i>The servants offered themselves to gather the weeds, but the Master was afraid that they might root up the wheat along with them. So He told them to be patient and to wait until the harvest, because by then it would be easier to tell one from the other.</i> <i>God sows good seeds in you heart but ... Who sows evil thoughts and feelings? Why? What does Jesus want to teach us with this parable?</i></p>	<p>God sows good seeds in our hearts. The good spirit strengthens, encourages, consoles, removes obstacles and gives peace to people. (cf. EE 315), God himself enlightens, encourages and sustains our good deeds.</p> <p>The bad spirit proceeds from our Lord’s enemy; it tries to make people complacent, offering excuses and enticing them with further distractions and pleasures; it stirs up anxiety and sadness, comes to us under false pretenses to prevent us from growing and bearing fruit. (cf. EE 314 – 315).</p> <p><i>Are there weeds? Don’t worry! The Master knows. May the wheat cheer up! The field is so nice!</i></p> <p><i>Are the weeds growing tall? Wheat will grow taller!</i></p> <p><i>Are the weeds too many? Weeds seem to outnumber wheat. Don’t worry, the Master knows! May the wheat cheer up! The field is so nice...</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Ramón Cué SJ</p>

Colloquy

Let's sit on the carpet, on the promised land, near Jesus, to hear him in the silence of our hearts.

Thank God for the good seeds He sowed in your heart ... and thank Him also because He is very patient with you... He knows that there are weeds in your heart; and despite that, He keeps loving you and sowing good seeds, hoping that some day you will bear fruit.

Thank Him for loving you so much!

