

**When We meet:**

*Sunday:*

Bible Study 9:30am

Worship 10:30am

Small Groups 6pm

*Wednesday:*

Bible Study 6:30pm

**Contact Us:**

Office– 9a-1p M-F

270-825-0304

pennyrilecoc@gmail.com

P.O. Box 161, Madisonville, KY  
42431

**Minister:** Sean Niestrath

269-352-9134

sean.niestrath@outlook.com



**Today!**- 5th Sunday Potluck & Congregational Meeting,

-Fellowship Hall

**Tomorrow!**- *Women's Prayer Group, 10:00 am*

**Mon & Wed** – Walking Group, 12:30 pm

**June 3**– *Ben Wacaster* Speaking

**June 14**– Wedding Shower– Karson & Emily , 1-4 pm

-Fellowship Hall

**June 21**– *Jon Stubblefield* Preaching

**June 28**– *Jared Jones* Preaching

(all events happening at the building unless otherwise noted.)



**June 12**– Lock-In

**June 20-27**– Uplift

**June 28**– Meet at church

**July 19-24**– WKYC

Contact **Jon**—270-635-1029 or

**Jared**—270-841-8542 for more info.



**June 2**– Sam Lupo

**June 3**– Anna Scott

**June 4**– Dale & Phyllis Gunkel

**June 5**– Jane Kittinger

**June 6**– Karson Teel



# Church of Christ

May 31, 2026

## Life in the Weeds

(Matt. 13:24-30; 36-43)

Chapter 13 is Matthew's gospel and one of the better-known passages in the New Testament. This is the chapter with the highest density of parables in the New Testament. There are seven parables in this chapter. What is more amazing about it is that two of them come with interpretations and it is in this chapter that the question of "why teach in parables?" is addressed.

It is certainly worth considering this chapter as a whole, but we will save that for another day. Today we are going to focus on just one of the longer parables. The disciples give it a title – another unusual event – "the parable of the weeds in the field."

It is always important to keep in mind who Matthew was writing to and what problems he was addressing with the new community of believers in Jesus. There is little doubt that many in the early church believed that Jesus was going to return very soon – in their lifetimes. We see Paul addressing this in in letters to the Thessalonians. John was addressing it when he wrote Revelation to the seven churches in Asia.

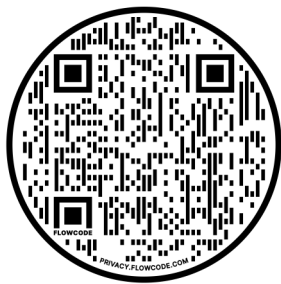
This may sound strange thinking of a gospel addressing this problem, but keep in mind what these believers were still processing. They believed that Jesus was the Christ. He was the new King David sitting on the throne. He was ushering in a New Kingdom of Heaven in which sin and death would be excluded.

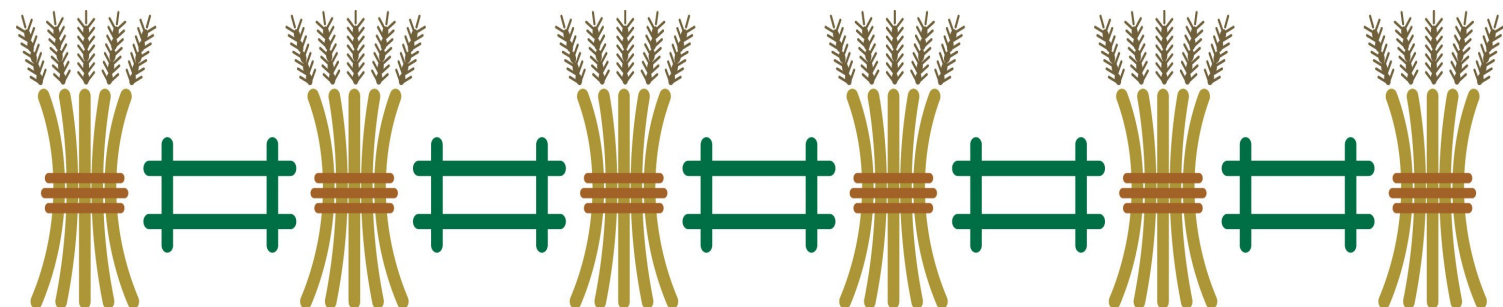
There was, however, an obvious problem. Since Jesus had been resurrected, Jerusalem had been destroyed, the temple ruined, and Rome's power only seemed to be increasing. There was conflict in this new path of faith between Jews and Gentiles. They were doing their best to live faithfully, but things just did not seem to be working out as they had planned. Some of them were in the cities they were in because they had been persecuted out of their homes.

So, Matthew reaches back into all the things that Jesus said and remembered this parable. He remembered several in fact and strung them together to send a clear message. "I know that it looks bad right now, but there will be a day when God will take care of this."

Each of these parables has its own message. We will hear about some of them as we go through this summer. Together they are letting the church know a couple of things. First, they need to keep doing what they are doing because they never know what their faithfulness will produce in others. Second, they may seem small in number and may feel overwhelmed by all the evil that the enemy is sowing, but their faithfulness does have its effect. It will not go unrewarded – God will send his angels and sort things out. We still need to remember this today.

Welcome Guests! Please scan the QR code or fill out our Connection Card-Red Folder . Let us know how we can help.





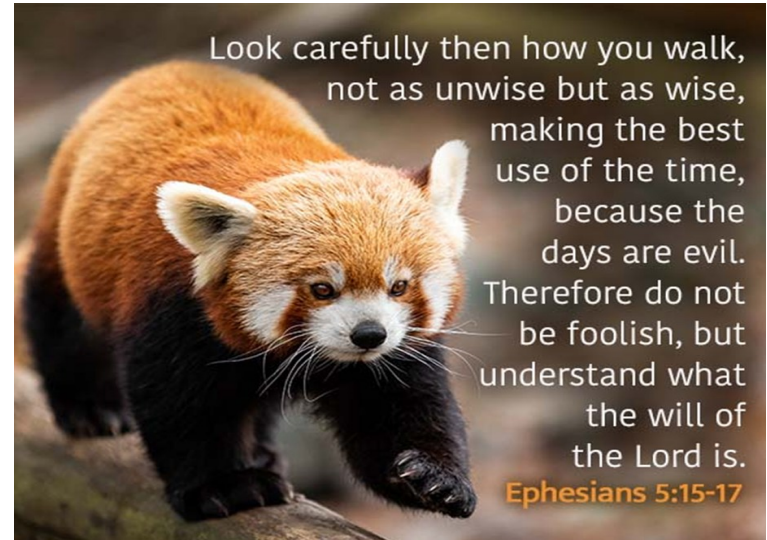
**Children's Song**  
**Cong. Reading:** Psalm 78: 1-4  
*Wonderful Words of Love*  
*The Gospel is for All*  
**Prayer—** Quincy Stephenson  
*My Faith Looks Up to Thee*  
*The Power of the Cross*  
 Lord's Supper  
**Presiding LS:** Jon Stubblefield  
**Serving LS:** Roger Dillingham  
 Mark Wilkerson Daniel Davis  
 Ezra Bridgman Larry Stone  
*The Gospel Song*  
 Contribution  
**No Children's Church**  
*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*  
**Scripture:** Matthew 13: 24-30 **Josh L**  
**Prayer—** Keith Tapp  
**Lesson—** Sean Niestrath  
*Faith Is The Victory*  
**Benediction:** Ephesians 5: 15-17  
*The Grace*

**TODAY—**  
**Call to Worship:** Barry Webb  
**Song Leader:** Eric Seesengood  
**Monitor:** Sam Lupo  
**Children's Church:** None  
**Sound Booth:** David Stubblefield

**NEXT WEEK—**  
**Call to Worship:** Byron Pruitt  
**Song Leader:** Josh Lupo  
**Prayers:** Roger Matheny/David Stubblefield  
**Scripture:** Darin Swaidner  
**Monitor:** Kellie Duggin  
**Children's Church:** Webb/Em/Bert  
**Sound booth:** Carson Clark  
**Presiding LS:** Tim Teel  
**Serving LS:** Quincy Stephenson  
 Landon Duggin Bryson Shoulders  
 Pete Shoulders Jeremy Duggin  
**Alternates for June:**  
 Keith Tapp Zach Pressley  
**Communion Prep:** Duggins  
**For the Record, Last Sunday:**  
 Bible Class— 39  
 Worship— 72  
 Contribution— \$3,429.00  
 Wednesday— 64

**Announcements:**  
**Bulletin Board:** Potter May Newsletter  
 Pictures from Sister Josephine & Rome  
**Expecting Parents:**  
 Aaron & Mallory Ashby (Girl, Oct)

**Elders:**  
 Barry Webb, Byron Pruitt, Dan Rust, Sean Niestrath  
**Deacons:**  
 Brock Shoulders, Buster Almon, Darin Swaidner,  
 David Stubblefield, Jeremy Duggin, Steve Stoltz,  
 Tim Teel, Zach Pressley



**PRAYER Requests**

**Ronnie Hill**, (Glenda's brother-in-law), recovering from surgery, started chemotherapy & physical therapy at Encompass Rehab  
**Rita Stone**, recovering from hernia surgery at home  
**Larry Keith**, replaced cast on his ankle  
**Callum Pruitt**, recovering from surgery to repair broken stitch  
**Guage Clark**, recovering from surgery, doing physical therapy  
**Lori Adkins**, (Bob & Bea Mcelvaine's daughter) doing chemotherapy  
**Marcy Heldreth Cherry**, (Shoulder's friend), surgery went well, some complications, but improving

**Ongoing Health Concerns and Prayer:**  
 Diana Adams, Kathy & Dexter Black, Suzette Mooney, Sherry Rushing, Sister Josephine, Jama Doc, Kathy Killough, Carol & Dennis Warszona, Barbara Lynch, Everett Beatty, Wyatt Brown, John Phillips, Linda Smith, Alberta Rust, Rebecca Niestrath, Sherry Logan, Karen Wilkerson, Benson Holmes, Lauren Turley, John Benham, Johnny Allen, James Allen, Donna Stephenson, Todd Templeton

**Praying For Our Military Members:**  
 Ryan Hill, Tyler Malik, Christopher Goodale, **Jason Rushing (deployed)**, Hans & Suraya Niestrath, Dalton Davis, Andrew Ashby, James Brahm, Christopher Brahm, Nathan Dees, Dalton Daves