

19th July Walk

**May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart  
be pleasing in your sight, LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.**

As you walk can you spot any places that are untidy?

- What makes these places seem untidy? Do others see it in this way?
- Are there signs of life in these places?
- What is the difference between untidy and uninhabitable?

**Read Matthew 13:36-43**

<sup>36</sup> Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” <sup>37</sup> He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; <sup>38</sup> the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, <sup>39</sup> and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. <sup>40</sup> Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. <sup>41</sup> The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, <sup>42</sup> and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. <sup>43</sup> Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

This is the explanation of the parable Jesus told a little earlier in this chapter. Jesus is taking the time to explain this parable to his disciples, not something he does very often. It feels similar to the parable of the sower, however, here there is only one type of ground and it is after the sower has sown his seed, that someone comes in the night to sow weeds. This means that the crops and the weeds grow together in the same place, getting the same nutrients, care and attention. It is only at harvest time that the weeds and the crop get separated.

- Can you recognise the weeds and the wheat in life around you?
- Do you feel there are more weeds than wheat?
- What sort of things, might help the wheat to grow stronger and produce more grains?
- How do you shine like the sun?

Take some time to pray about the things that invade your thoughts and ask God to help you understand their place in the world, but not to be let them block you from being who you truly are, a loved and blessed child of God.

## **Activity**

**Take some time to write down the things that distract you from seeing God.**

**Here are a couple of examples:**

**Pettiness**

**Discrimination**

**Lies**

**Now throw this paper away (recycle it) and as you do recognise that these things are in the world, but they are not going to stop you from shining like the sun!**