



# Making Family Bread – Matthew 13:24-43

## Parables – Grades 6-8

Young people are familiar with Jesus' reliance in his parables on images from everyday life, especially from the world of nature.

### Materials Needed

- A dandelion seed head or picture from a magazine or the Internet of a dandelion with its seeds blowing away

### Preparation for Sunday Scripture Readings

1. Show the young people the dandelion or ask them to describe the picture of the dandelion.
2. Ask a volunteer to blow the dandelion seeds off the stem or to describe what happens when someone blows on a dandelion seed head.
3. Ask: *If you did this in your yards, what would they look like at the end of summer or next year?* (Weeds would overrun the yard.)
4. Say: *People often work diligently to keep weeds out of their yards. In Sunday's Gospel, we hear Jesus using the image of weeds to help us understand the Kingdom of God.*
5. Have a volunteer read aloud the short version of the Gospel, Matthew 13:24-30.
6. Ask: *What do you think Jesus is trying to teach us about the Kingdom of God?* (Accept all reasonable answers.)
7. Have another volunteer finish reading the longer version, Matthew 13:24-43.
8. Ask: *What do these parables teach us about the Kingdom of God?* (Accept all reasonable answers.)
9. Say: *In the coming week, let's continue to pray that our faith will grow and that the Kingdom of God will be spread throughout the world.*
10. Conclude by praying the psalm for this Sunday, Psalm 86:5-6,9-10,15-16.

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