

The center column holds the main text for each day, while the right column includes secondary texts.

Basic Tips: 1.) Use a translation you can understand. If new to the Bible, try the NIV or The Message, which are both available online. 2.) Use a kids Bible with kids. 3.) Keep a pencil and notebook around to write down questions, observations, and conclusions. 4.) Have fun. Use your imagination and your brain.

January 3-10

FOR THE KING – Glimpses of the Kingdom (Part 2) The Kingdom is Like a Box of Chocolates

Day 1	Matt 13:24-30,36-43	
Day 2	Matt 13:47-52	
Day 3	Isaiah 5:1-7	
Day 4	John 8:31-46	
Day 5	1 John 3:11-18	Psalm 115

Questions to Guide You:

- 1.) These parables about Weeds and Fish are wonderfully realistic. What does it teach us about the Kingdom of God, that there are still lots of weeds and bad fish mixed in? How should this change our expectations of “Christians”?
- 2.) Where did the weeds come from? How does this help to explain the evil in Church history like the Crusades and Inquisition, and the evil that still mixes in with our thoughts and actions?
- 3.) Is God responsible for causing the evil in the world according to these parables? How does God respond to the evil? How should we as God’s servants?
- 4.) How is God like a gardener, farmer, or vine-keeper? How is that encouraging?
- 5.) One of our Church Belief Confessions starts with the following: **Q. What is your only comfort in life and in death?** A. That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me

- wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.
- 6.) How can we better see Heaven on Earth by recognizing “weeds” and waiting on God to remove them in his good time?