Family Commentary July 19-July 26, 2026

July 19: Matthew 13:24-30,36-43, Weeds among the Wheat

In this Gospel reading, Jesus shares another parable or teaching story. A Sower plants wheat seeds and an enemy plants weeds in the same field. When the plants begin to grow, those tending to the field want to pull the weeds, but the Sower explains that pulling the weeds would also hurt the wheat, because their roots are so close to each other. Jesus then uses this story to talk about how we experience other people in our lives.

Sometimes people make choices we disagree with or do bad things, like the enemy in this story. When this happens, we might feel that these choices or actions make them a bad person. But, while they should be held accountable for their choices and actions, we must also remember that we all have good inside us too. Our worst moments, other people's worst moments, are not what define us in God's eyes, and we must try to remember that in our interactions with each other.

Questions for Reflection:

Have you ever made a choice that you regret? Have you ever made a choice that you were really proud of? Know that God loves you in your lowest and proudest moments.

July 26: Matthew 13:31-33,44-52, Five Parables

We continue our journey with parables as Jesus offers many different comparisons to help as many people as possible understand what God is like. The similarity in each comparison is that there is something small, ordinary, or hidden that is noticed and valued: a mustard seed, a pearl, yeast, a fishing net, hidden treasure. This shows us that small, ordinary things are important for our growth and are of great value to God. It also shows us that sometimes we can't always see the ways God is working in our lives or the ways that we are growing. But this slow, silent, hidden growth is still important to God.

Questions for Reflection:

Plant something, bake some bread, or go outside and find something very small together. Talk about how God is working in the small things too. How does that make you feel?

What is one goal you have for this year? Are there small steps that you can take to achieve it?