

# WEEK 2 | DEVOTIONAL IT'S LIKE...

### RECEIVE

Slowly. Prayerfully, read out loud **Matthew 13:24–52.** Before and after each reading, pause for a moment of silence. In that silence prayerfully ask the Spirit of Christ to guide you into knowing and living what you are receiving from the Scripture. Consider, what does God want you to reflect on and learn?

## REFLECT

- 1. What is one idea from the message that stood out to you?
- 2. What are some ways Christians blend in with non-Christians?
- 3. What dangers lie in labeling people "weeds" or "wheat"?
- 4. Whose responsibility is it to label the weeds and deal with them?
- 5. Why do you think Jesus used a mustard seed to describe the Kingdom of God?
- 6. What does this parable teach us about the growth and expansion of God's Kingdom?
- 7. How does the image of yeast work to describe the Kingdom of God?

- 8. In what ways does the Kingdom of God work "invisibly" yet powerfully in our lives and communities?
- 9. Can you identify areas in your life, or the world, where you see the Kingdom of God spreading quietly but effectively?
- 10. Why is the Kingdom compared to something hidden, like a treasure?
- 11. How does this parable illustrate the value of the Kingdom of God?
- 12. Currently on your own journey, do you view the Kingdom of God as a treasure you're willing to sacrifice all for? Why or why not?

### **RESPOND**

Which one of these "Kingdom of God is like..." examples most resonates with you? Why? What do you believe God might be trying to help you see? How will that enable you to take the next steps on your faith journey?

## **RESOURCE**

To reflect further on what we heard today, find on YouTube the Bible Project's video, "Why Jesus Told Parables (and How You Can Understand Them)."