



REPLENISHED – Resilience Matters 17th July 2021 Mark Wiltshire

This Study Guide provides a summarised study with additional discussion questions based on the scriptures mentioned in the sermon.

Connect:

1. Why does resilience matter?

“Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts.”
Winston Churchill

2. Read [Matthew 13:24-27](#) (**An enemy is at work**)
3. To gain a better understanding, we need the context of the other parables about the Kingdom of Heaven:

The Sower (Matthew 13:1-23)
The Wheat and Weeds (Matthew 13:24-30 , 36-43)
The Mustard Seed (Matthew 13:31-32)
The Yeast (Matthew 13:33)
The Hid Treasure (Matthew 13:44)
The Pearl (Matthew 13:45-46)
The Drag Net (Matthew 13:47-50)
The Unmerciful Servant (Matthew 18:23-35)
The Vineyard Laborers (Matthew 20:1-16)
The Marriage Feast (Matthew 22:1-14)
The Ten Virgins (Matthew 25:1-13)
The Talents (Matthew 24:14-30)

- *Wheat – has intrinsic value (for food and trading)*
- *Enemy – trying to damage the wheat crop*
- *Weeds – take nutrition, water, light, - crowd out the crop*
- *Sowing weeds in a neighbour’s field was a common way of ‘getting even’. The Roman government passed a law against it!*

4. What is the goal of the enemy?

Engage:

5. Read [Matthew 13:28-31](#): **The good and the bad grow together** [Use the points below to discuss this scripture]
 - *Workers want to pull out the weeds – may damage the wheat*

- *The farmer wants to protect the crop and tells the workers to leave the weeds in place*
 - *Harvesters will be told to sort it all out – to store the wheat and destroy the weeds*
6. Everything grows – both good and evil – both produce grain/a crop (fruit). What kind of crop do you want to produce in your life?
 7. What can you do to make sure the fruit of your life is good?
 8. Read [Matthew 13:36-39](#): **Jesus identified 7 things** [Use the points below to discuss this scripture]
 - *God and the Devil are both active planters!*
 - *Shows us that God does allow evil to exist around us*
 - *Devil wants wheat destroyed (there's a danger of pulling up weeds prematurely)*
 - *Good News - God's people can stand in the face of evil*
 - *Enemy - the impact of sin/evil (like Darnel) often takes time to be seen*
 - *Even if evil grows, we must not stop growing ourselves*
 9. Read [Matthew 13:40-43](#): **The end of the world** [Use the points below to discuss this scripture]
 - God delays the judgement of evil, to allow time for people to find Him
 - God in His mercy – wants many to be saved ([Ezekiel 18:23](#))
 - Jesus (not us) will remove all the sin and evil that impacts His Kingdom
 - Ultimately weeds are thrown into the (eternal) fire:
 1. **The final separation will be everlasting** - Salvation is important
 - a. Giving your life to Christ - this is why we invite decisions at BCC
 2. **Sin and Evil will impact our world** - until the separation happens
 - a. Know how to be resilient!

“As a child of God we will be visible by what we produce.”
Pastor Mark Wiltshire

Framework:

10. What is the opposite of resilience?
11. Read [Psalm 3:1-3](#)
12. What are the weaker, vulnerable areas in your life?
13. What is resilience?
14. Is your resilience damaged at the moment?
15. How can you become more resilient?
16. Read [2 Corinthians 12:9](#)
 - God has made us with an ability to recover, adapt and grow
 - Recognise your areas of weakness - but they must NOT define you!
 - God is the master at making good out of evil situations ([Romans 8:28](#))

Areas we need Resilience:

- **Physically:** Exercise sensibly, eat healthily, sleep well
- **Emotionally/Mentally:** Stretch ourselves, change the way we think ([Romans 12:2](#)) - don't accept everything the world says
- **Spiritually:**
 - i) **Be intentional** (prayer, word, fellowship) - Read [Colossians 2:7](#)

ii) **Be alert** (overcome the enemy) - Read [1 Peter 5:8](#)

17. Read [Philippians 3:13-14](#)

- There are over 8,800 promises in the 66 books of the Bible
- Press forward, reset your focus and ask God what is He saying to you

18. How with wisdom can you renew and strengthen your faith?

“God turns setbacks into comebacks!”

Rick Warren

19. Do you need to know more of God’s strength and power right now?

20. Do you know Jesus personally?

- God’s desire for us is to be fully equipped in all we do and for us to be able to stand firm in all situations.