

# SG Discussion Questions

for Personal Study and Small Groups 6/2/13

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## Hope for the Underdog! Matthew 13.24-43

**Purpose of SG:** to foster in its members the biblical values of worship (God), discipleship (church), and outreach (lost).

**2013 Annual Focus:** Drawing Near to the Good and Mighty King.

**Announcements:** Baptism Service today (6/9) and SGL lunch at LaForesta Thursday (6/13) at noon.

### SG Discussion Questions:

**Focus:** *Giving people hope in the growth and justice of the kingdom in the face of great odds and evil.*

Option: share favorite underdog stories, then ask "why do underdogs need to be given hope?" In what ways is the kingdom of God like an underdog?

Review 13.10-17 and 34-35 and highlight the different purposes for Jesus to teach in parables.

Read 13.31-33. What is the main point of these 2 parables? In what settings is their message most needed for Christians today?

Read 13.24-30 and 36-43. What do you learn about the "players" in the spiritual world from this parable? What do you learn about the coming day of the Lord (judgment day?) When and how must this be an encouragement to you?

What in our culture is discouraging to your faith these days? How can these parables help you be faithful in the face of that?

How do you think these parables apply to our missionaries? How can you pass this kind of encouragement along to them?