

## The Parable of the Net - Matthew 13:47-52

**Topics:** Angels, Evil, Future, Grief, Hell, Judgment, Kingdom of God/Heaven, Mourning, Punishment, Righteousness, Surprises, Unbelievers

### Open It

- \* 1. What is your favorite “fish story”?
- 2. When someone says the word “angel,” what kind of images come to mind?
- 3. What one question would you like to ask God about heaven?

### Explore It

- \* 4. To what did Jesus compare the kingdom of heaven? (13:47)
- \* 5. How was the net used, and what was the result? (13:47)
  - 6. In the Parable of the Net, what did the fishermen do with the full net? (13:48)
  - 7. What happened to the good fish? (13:48)
  - 8. What happened to the bad fish? (13:48)
- \* 9. Why did Jesus use this analogy? (13:49)
  - 10. What group did the fishermen in the story represent? (13:49)
  - 11. Jesus interpreted His parable to say that wicked people can expect what kind of eternal destiny? (13:50)
  - 12. What question did Jesus ask His disciples when He finished teaching? (13:51)
  - 13. How did the disciples answer Jesus’ question? (13:51)
  - 14. To what did Jesus compare those in His audience who knew about the Old Testament law and the kingdom of heaven to come? (13:52)

### Get It

- 15. What do you think it would have been like to hear Jesus teach about heaven?
- 16. Since Jesus is in the fishing business, what can you do to help him catch men and women?
- 17. Why are we often reluctant to talk about hell?
- 18. What could you say to a friend who expressed doubts about hell?
- \* 19. How would it alter the way we live if we kept in mind the fact that God will judge us?
- \* 20. How can we live more often with the wonder of heaven in mind?
- 21. What new insight into God’s kingdom do you have as a result of studying this passage?

### Apply It

- 22. What reminders can you use today to help you pray for non-Christian friends and relatives?
- 23. In what way can you remind yourself of heaven this week?
- \* 24. How can you show your gratitude to God today for making you a “good fish”?