

Final Sermon Series Content: *The Tears of Things*

Week 1: Weeds and Wheat

[Link for this week's readings](#)

[Additional Study Guide \(Weeks 1 & 2\)](#)

📖 *Matthew 13:24–30*

📖 *Isaiah 44:6–8*

📖 *Book: Introduction, Chapter 1 “A Good Summary”*

Theme:

Prophets begin in anger—injustice, deceit, and the misuse of power. But the path of discernment is not about judgment. In the parable of the weeds and wheat, Jesus reminds us that both grow together, and it is not up to us to separate them. What might it look like to stay faithful in the messiness, without rushing to root everything out?

Week 2: Messenger to the Collective

[Link for this week's readings](#)

[Additional Study Guide \(Week 2\)](#)

📖 *Amos 6:1, 4–7; 4:6–11; 9:13–15*

📖 *Galatians 5:22–26*

📖 *Book: Chapters 2 and 4*

Theme:

True prophets don't scapegoat individuals. They call out systems and cultures of injustice. Amos reminds us that comfort and complacency have consequences—and that it's time to wake up. Where have I scapegoated people instead of asking what's happening behind the scenes? How does that shift help me respond in love and justice?

Week 3: Unfinished Prophets (Including Me)

[Link for this week's readings.](#)

[Additional Study Guide \(Week 3\)](#)

📖 *1 Kings 18:20–40*

📖 *Job 19:25–26*

📖 *Matthew 3:1–10*

📖 *Book: Chapter 6*

Theme:

Elijah ran. Jonah sulked. John the Baptist doubted. Even the boldest prophets didn't always see things clearly. They were confused, in denial, full of doubt—just like us. The prophetic path is not about being perfect; it's about being in process. This week, we explore how God still works through unfinished people.

Week 4: A Call to Love Through Tears

[Link for this week's readings.](#)

📖 *Galatians 5:13–25*

📖 *Luke 9:51–56*

📖 *Book: Chapters 4 and 10*

Theme:

Richard Rohr talks about the creative tension between action and contemplation. First comes action—our effort to do good in a broken world. But when action alone doesn't resolve the pain, we learn to hold the grief, too. What does it mean to love through tears? What have your tears taught you about God's call?