

# Rooted in God's Earth: Trees in Scripture



## **SESSION 9**

**Seeds, Growth, Grain**

**Monday 23 September 2024**





*God of creation, we thank you that we are rooted in your earth together. Help us to recognise and rejoice in the interconnectedness of all that has lived and all that will live. In our encounters with scripture, help us to listen for what your Spirit is saying, and inspire us with your love. Amen.*



# Scripture and Our Lives...

**Heart** – intuition, feeling, openness, contemplative

**Head** – thinking, studying, questioning, curious

**Feet** – movement, determination, commitment, energetic



*'Beyond all that we can ask or imagine'*

*'Imagine the world to be different'*

*'We live, and move, and have our being in God's presence, here and now'*

He put before them another parable:  
'The kingdom of heaven may be  
compared to someone who sowed  
good seed in his field; but while  
everybody was asleep,  
an enemy came and sowed weeds  
among the wheat, and then went  
away.  
So when the plants came up and bore  
grain, then the weeds appeared as  
well.



And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, "Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?" He answered, "An enemy has done this." The slaves said to him, "Then do you want us to go and gather them?"



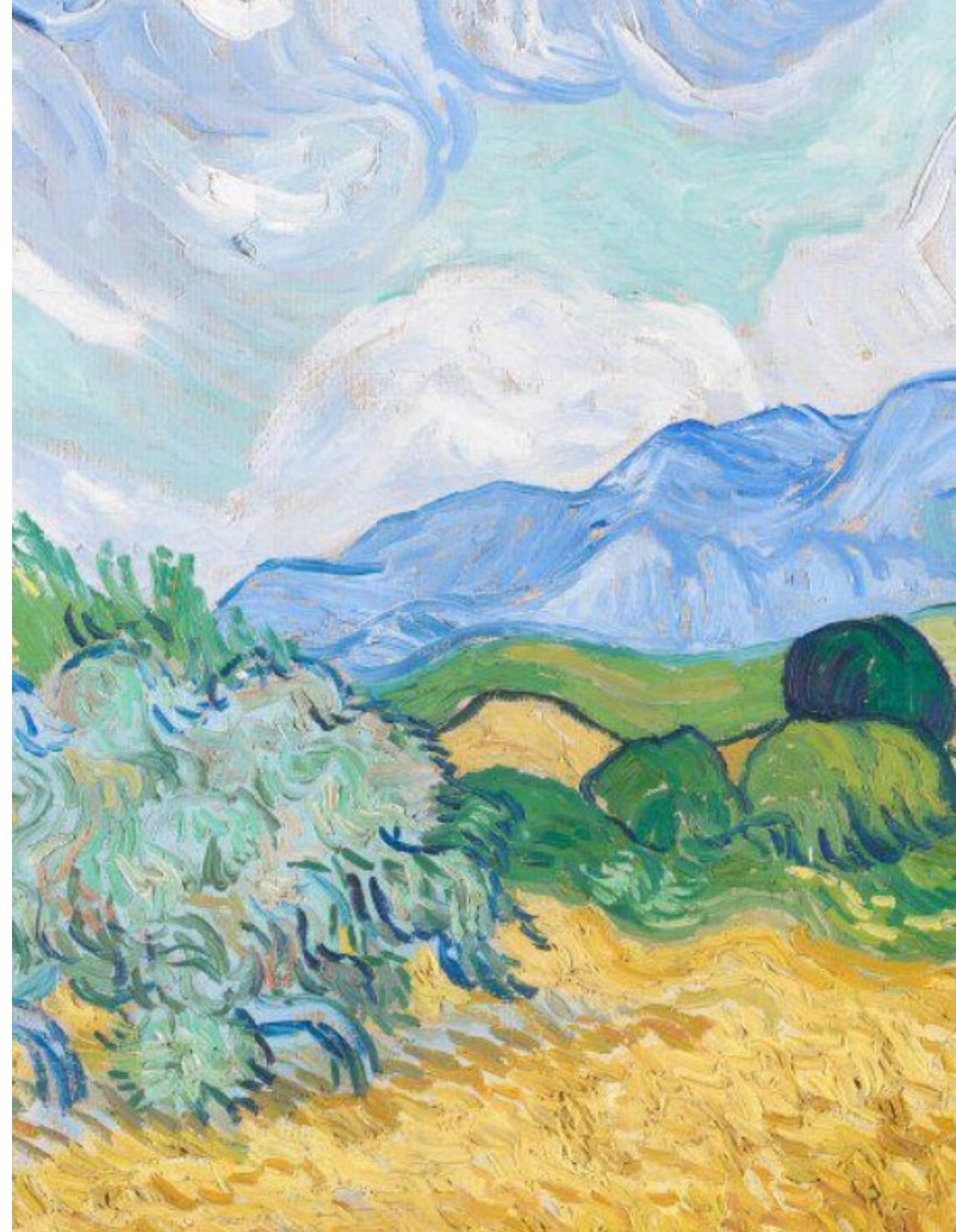
But he replied, "No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, "Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn." '

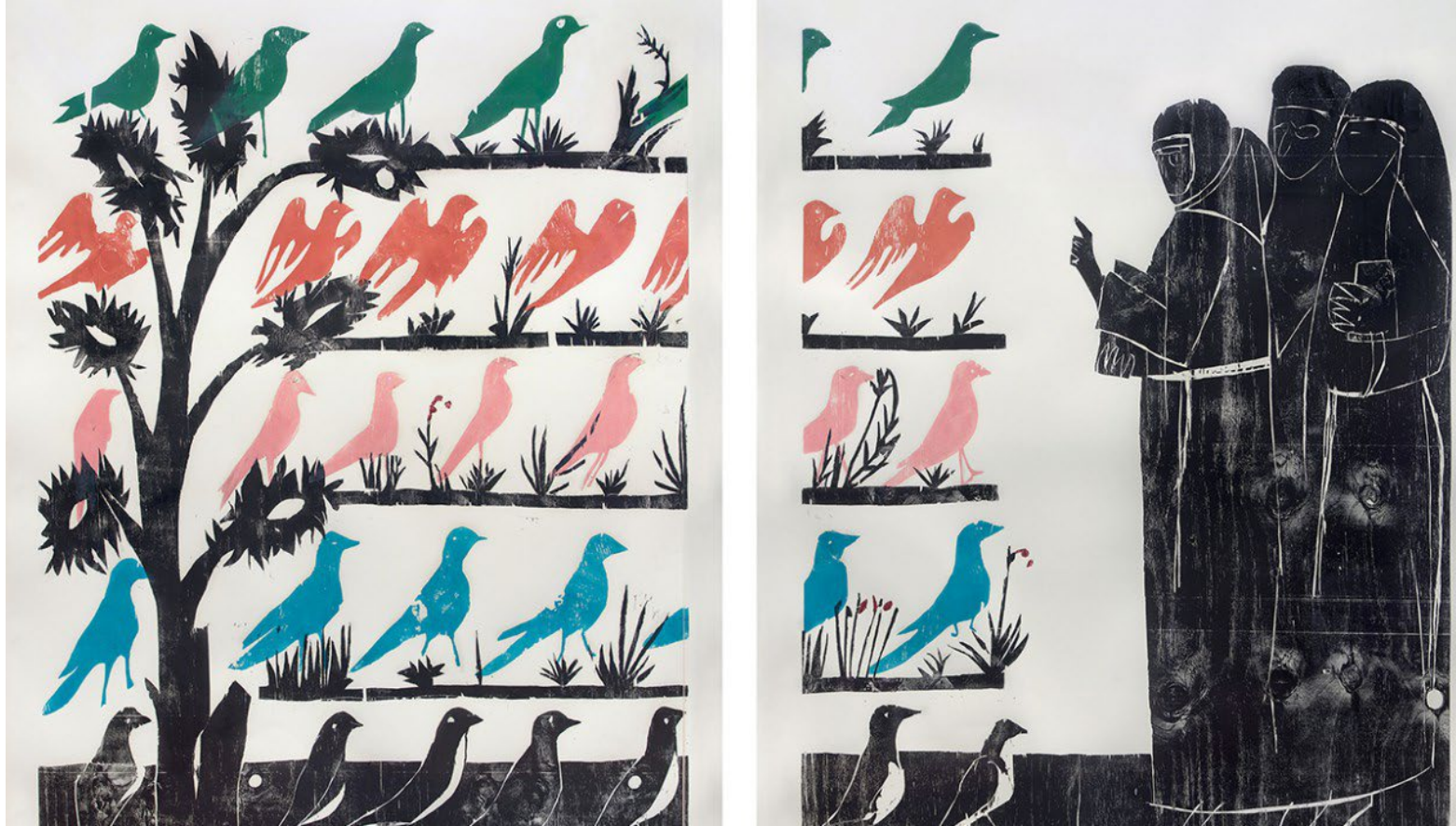




## **PAUSE, DISCUSS, EXPLORE**

- **If you were the householder, would you have done the same thing?**
- **What might the wheat and the weeds represent?**



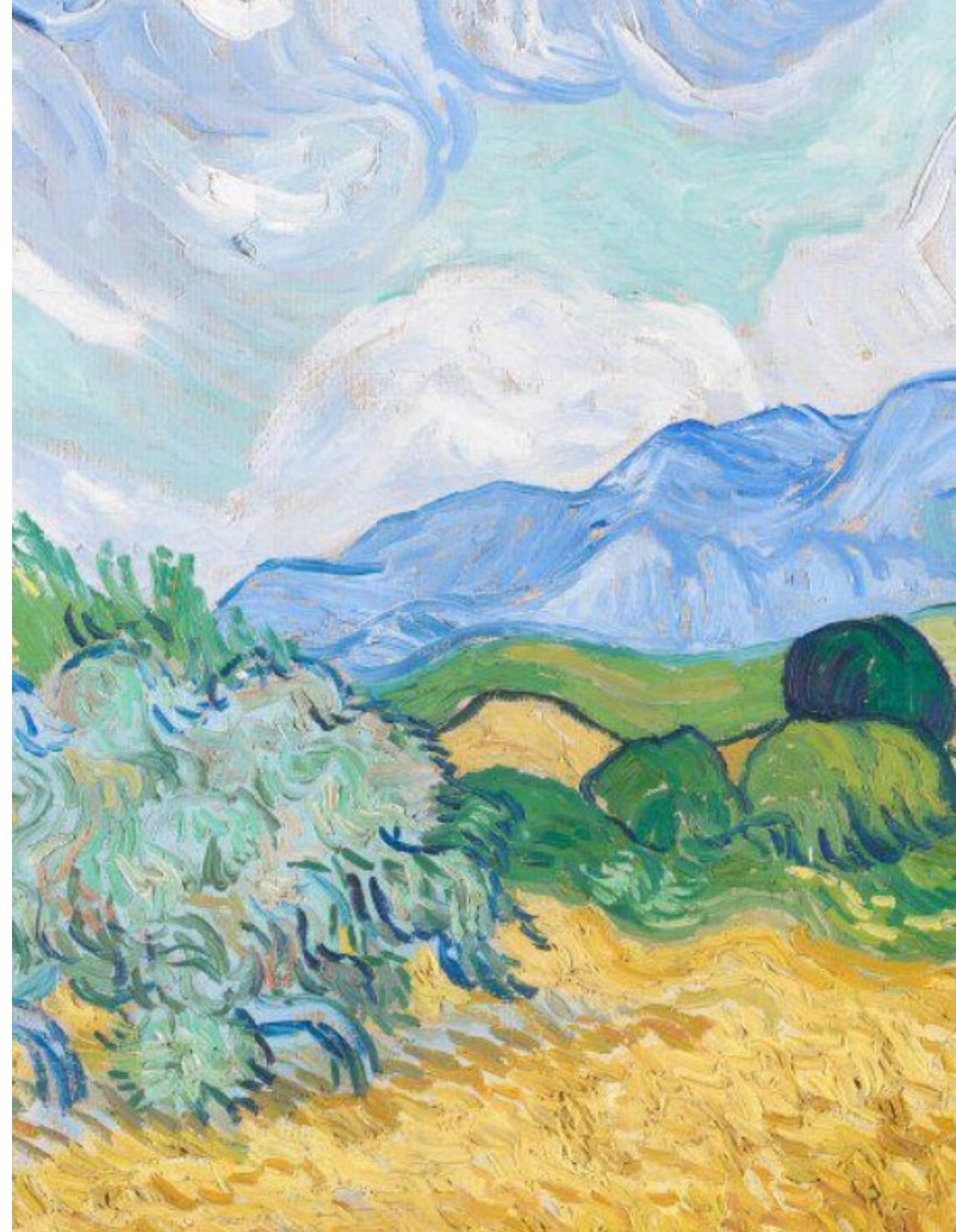


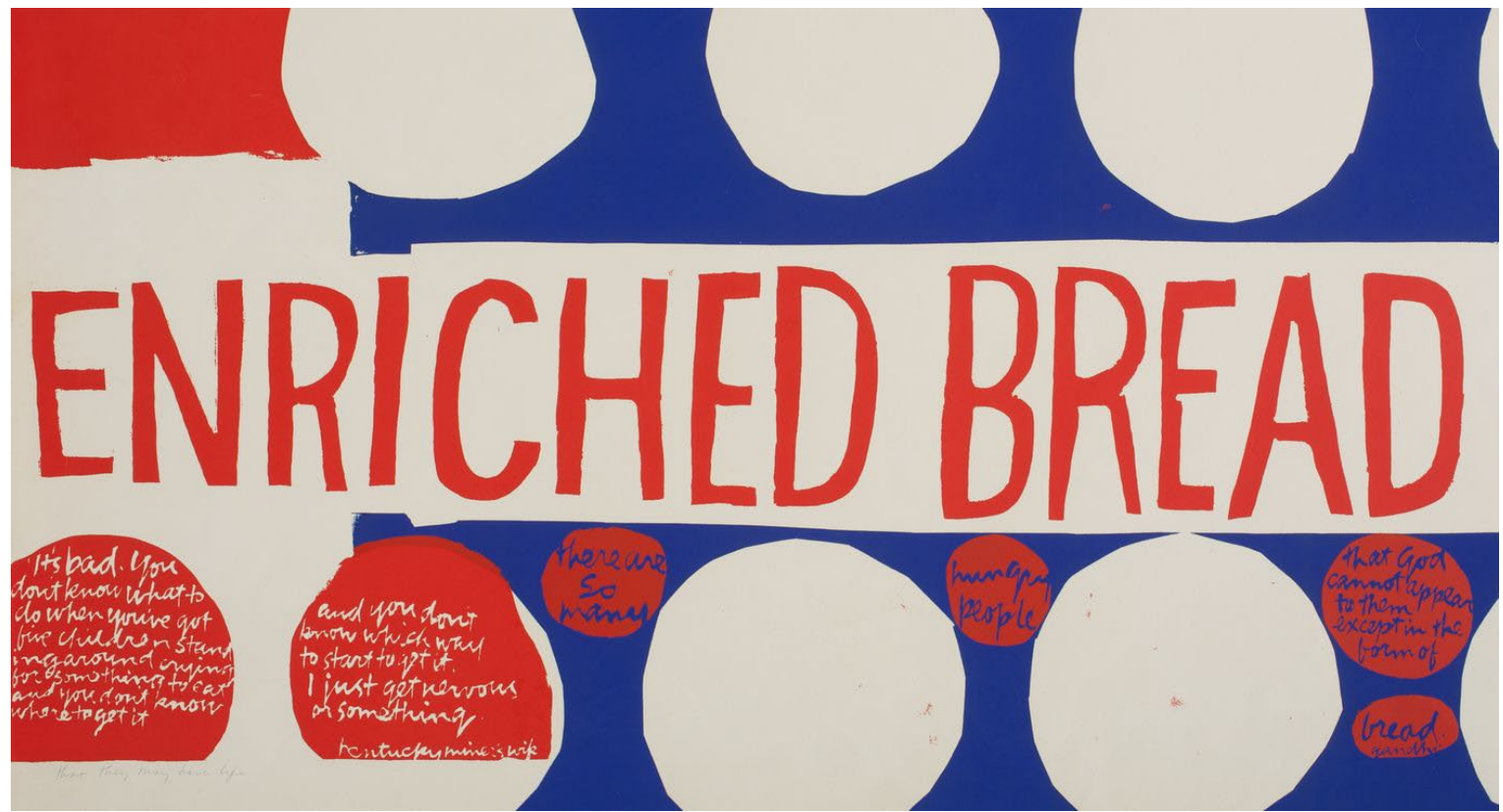
He put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.'



## **PAUSE, DISCUSS, EXPLORE**

**What connections might be possible between the first parable (wheat and weeds) and the second parable (the mustard seed)?**





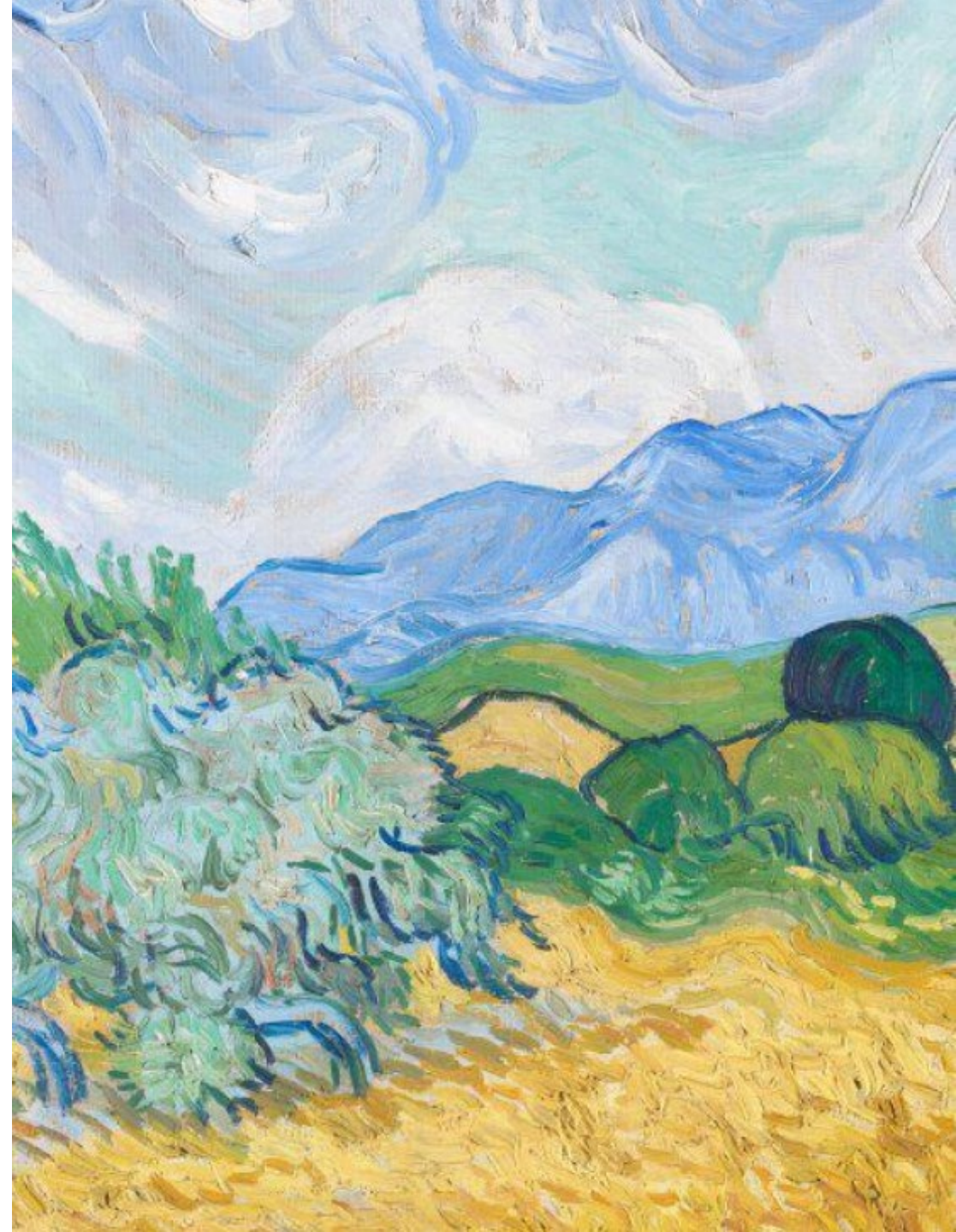
He told them another parable:  
'The kingdom of heaven is like  
yeast that a woman took and  
mixed in with three measures of  
flour until all of it was leavened.'



## **PAUSE, DISCUSS, EXPLORE**

**What difference might it make to explore these three parables as one big story in three parts?**

**If you were listening to Jesus share these parables ('rolling alongside') with you, what might be most challenging? What might give you hope or comfort?**







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