**PARABLE OF THE WORKERS IN THE VINEYARD**

**MATTHEW 20:1-19**

**WAVE CHURCH SD | MARCH 31, 2019**

**John 6:66-71 (ESV)** *66After this many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him. 67So Jesus said to the twelve, “Do you want to go away as well?” 68Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, 69and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God.” 70Jesus answered them, “Did I not choose you, the twelve? And yet one of you is a devil.” 71He spoke of Judas the son of Simon Iscariot, for he, one of the twelve, was going to betray him.*

**Luke 23:42-43 (ESV)***42And he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” 43And he said to him, “Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise.”*

**Exodus 33:19 (ESV)** *19And he said, “I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you my name ‘The Lord.’ And I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy.*

**Matthew 20:1-16 (ESV)** *“For the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a   
house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard.  
2After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. 3And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, 4and to them he said, ‘You go into the vineyard too, and whatever   
is right I will give you.’ 5So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. 6And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, ‘Why do you stand here idle all day?’ 7They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You go into the vineyard too.’ 8And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.’ 9And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. 10Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. 11And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, 12saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ 13But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? 14Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. 15Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?’ 16So the last will be first, and the first last.”*

**Luke 13:29-30 (ESV)** *29And people will come from east and west, and from north and south, and recline at table in the kingdom of God. 30And behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last.”*

**WHAT DO WE LEARN ABOUT THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN?**

* **THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS NOT A REWARD FOR PEOPLE WHO DESERVE IT.**

**Ephesians 1:7-14 (NIV)**

* **THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN WILL CAUSE US TO SAY, “WAIT, WHAT?!”**

**WHAT DO WE LEARN ABOUT JESUS?**

* **JESUS IS A GRACIOUS MASTER WORTHY OF CELEBRATION IN EVERY WAY.**
* **JESUS MAKES THE RULES. HE ALWAYS KEEPS HIS PROMISE. HE GIVES US MORE THAN WE DESERVE.**

**WHAT DO WE LEARN ABOUT THE LABORERS?**

* **ALL ARE EQUALLY UNDERSERVING OF GOD’S GRACE.**
* **THE JOY OF GRACE IS LOST WHEN WE DECIDE WE GET TO MAKE THE RULES.**

**MATTHEW 20:17-19 (ESV)** *17And as Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, he took the twelve disciples aside, and on the way he said to them, 18“See, we are going up to Jerusalem. And the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and scribes, and they will condemn him to death 19and deliver him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified, and he will be raised on the third day.”*

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