

The Parable of the Worker in the Vineyard



Matthew 20:1-16

- In the Book of Matthew 13:10, Jesus began using parables to teach about the kingdom of heaven.
- According to Mark 4:34, “Jesus did not say anything to them without using a parable and when He was alone with His Disciples He would explain what He meant.”
- Purpose: To assist us in growing in our understanding by exploring these divine truths found Christ teaching.
- Objective: To teach us what they mean and how they relate to our present and future life in Christ Jesus.
- Goal: To allow the Holy Spirit speak to our hearts and draw us closer to Jesus Christ.
- Spiritual Principles: Authority, Organization, Obedience, Stewardship, Agreement, Grace, Faith, Unconditional love, Sowing and Reaping

○ Review Lessons Taught:

1. What is a parable?

- It is a simple yet powerful story that Jesus used to illustrate a great truth. Jesus used parables to help His followers understand spiritual truth.
- The word “parable” is taken from the Greek word that literally means to cast or throw alongside.
- Parables were stories that were “cast or thrown” alongside a truth in order to illustrate a divine truth.

2. These are the parables that have been taught:

- The Parable of the Sower. (Matthew 13:3-9, 18-23)
- The Parable of the Wheat and The Weeds (Matthew 13:24-30)
- The Parable of the Mustard Seed. (Matthew 13:31-32)
- The Parable of the Leaven (Matthew 13:33, Luke 13:20-21)
- The Parable of the Hidden Treasure (Matthew 13:44)
- The Parable of the Pearl of Great Price” (Matthew 13:45-46)
- The Parable of the Dragnet
- The Parable of the Wineskins
- The Parable of the Talents (Matthew 25:14-30, Luke 19:12-26)
- The Parable of the Rich Fool (Luke 12:13-21)

- The Parable of the Creditor and Two Debtors. (Luke 7:36-50)

The Parable of the Worker in the Vineyard Matthew 20:1-16

- In this parable Jesus teaches a powerful lesson about the Kingdom of Heaven and the power of God's grace given to each of His servants or stewards.
- What was Jesus' objective of the Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard?
 - To demonstrate God's amazing grace.
 - To demonstrate that God's generosity was based upon need and not greed.
 - To demonstrate that God is faithful to fulfill His eternal promises.
- In this parable of the Workers in the Vineyard we will explore and examine the expression of God's Grace in all three of these important areas.
 - God's Call. (vs. 1-7)
 - God's Care. (vs. 8-12)
 - God's Chosen. (vs. 13-16)
- What does scripture reveal about the nature of God's grace?
 1. The Lord is gracious. (Psalm 111:4)
 2. He is the giver of grace. (Proverbs 3:34, 1 Peter 5:5-6)
 3. He is the God of all grace. (1 Peter 5:10-11)
 4. Jesus Christ message is called the gospel of grace of God and the Word of His grace (Acts 20:24, 32)
 5. Jesus Christ was full of grace and truth. It is from His fullness that we receive grace for grace. (John 1:14, 16)
 6. Grace and truth came by Jesus Christ and not the law. (John 1:17)
 7. God's throne is a throne of grace that every believer can boldly approach in the time of need. (Hebrews 4:16)

8. It was by the grace of God that Jesus tasted death for everyone.
(Hebrews 2:5-9, Isaiah 53:7)

○ There are Five expressions of God's grace.

1. Saving Grace. The power to save through faith in Jesus Christ.
(Ephesians 2:8-9)

2. Sanctified Grace. The power to sanctify and enable us to live holy lives before God. (Titus 2:11-12)

3. Sufficient Grace – The power to live an overcoming life. (Romans 5:17, 2 Corinthians 12:7-10)

4. Sharing Grace – The power to witness and share the good news of Jesus Christ with others. (Matthew 28:8-20, Acts 1:8, Romans 1:16-17)

5. Serving Grace – The power to serve God and others. (Matthew 23:11, John 12:25-26, 1 Peter 4:10, Colossians 3:17, 23, Hebrews 6:10, Ephesians 6:7)

○ There are Four important things that has significant meaning in this parable. (Matthew 20:1-16)

1. The landowner. "God the Father." (vs. 1)

2. The laborers (workers). "God's servants or stewards." (vs. 1)

3. The vineyard is the place (The world and the church). "Where God's call and purpose are fulfilled." (vs. 1)

4. The landowner's agreement to pay a full day wage (denarius) and a promise to pay what is right to all his laborers. "God's reward to the faithful" (vs. 2-7)

○ The First thing we must examine is "God's Call" in this parable. (vs. 1-7)

• (vs. 1) – "For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard."

• There are (4) four things about God (The Landowner) in this parable (vs. 1-2)

1. God is the landowner. (vs. 1) “God owns everything.” (Psalm 24:1-2, 1 Corinthians 6:19-20)
 2. God chose to hire laborers or workers. (vs. 1) “God chose and redeemed us by His grace.” (John 15:16, Luke 19:10, Ephesians 1:3-7, 2:8-10, 2 Peter 2:9-10)
 3. God provided the vineyard (world and church). (vs. 1)
 - God provided the grace and place to fulfill our calling. (Matthew 9:35-38, 28:18-20, Mark 16:15, 1 Corinthians 15:58)
 4. God promised to reward each laborer (workers) for their work. (vs. 2)
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 - God provided the grace and place to fulfill our calling. (Matthew 9:35-38, 28:18-20, Mark 16:15, 1 Corinthians 15:58)
 - God’s grace and love expresses (3) three things that relates to the workers in this parable.
 1. The Purpose. (vs. 1)
 - “The landowner went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard.” (vs. 1)
 - There are (3) three things that are significant about the Call. (vs. 1-2)
 - 1) The call came from God and not man. (John 6:44, 12:32, 14:6)
 - 2) The call came to serve God’s purpose in His vineyard and not man. (John 6:38, Psalm 40:8, Romans 12:1-2)

- 3) Without God life here in this world and in the church would serve no purpose at all. (John 15:1-5)
- Dr. Myles Munroe stated, “When you don’t know the purpose of a thing, you will abuse a thing.”
 - The word “purpose” is God’s divine will and plan for the life of His creation.
1. God reveals His purpose in our lives through Jesus Christ that ultimately brings fulfillment to our lives. (1 Corinthians 1:4-9)
 2. The “purpose” for mankind can only be found in the Creator life which is God. (Genesis 2:1-7, John 1:1-4, Colossians 1:16)
 3. God created man purposefully in His image and likeness. (Genesis 1:26-28)
 - The purpose of mankind was to have relationship through genuine fellowship and communion with God.
 - To reflect God’s image and likeness or nature through the entire world. (Isaiah 43:1-7)
 - To rule and have dominion or stewardship over all the earth. (Psalm 8:6-9)
 - To be fruitful and multiply and replenish the earth. (John 15:7-8)
 - To bring glory and honor to His name by fulfilling our God-giving calling or assignments. (Ephesians 2:8-10, Matthew 5:13-16)
 4. God is faithful to call and seek help from workers whose heart is willing and eagerly to work and serve His purposes in His vineyard. (2 Timothy 1:8-14)
 - God is faithful. (Deuteronomy 7:9, 1 Corinthians 1:9, Romans 8:28, Hebrews 10:23)
 - The word “faithful” means reliable, fidelity, firmness, stability, trustworthy, dependable or true to one’s word.
 - It’s impossible for God to be unfaithful, to do so would go against His divine nature. (2 Timothy 2:13)
 - God’s faithfulness should never be based solely upon what He does, but simply who He is – God is faithful.

5. God's will is that everyone hears, receive and believe on the name of Jesus Christ and bring glory and honor to His name. (1 Timothy 2:1-4, 2 Peter 3:9)

2. The Agreement. (vs. 2)

- "Now when he had agreed with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard." (vs. 2)
- 1) God promised to reward each laborers (workers) for their work. (vs. 2)
- 2) The "agreement" between the landowner and the hired workers was a denarius a full day wage."
- 3) The "landowner" believed in the workers to fulfill their purpose in His vineyard.
 - God believes in His Son Jesus Christ. (Matthew 3:13-17)
 - God believes in the work that His Son Jesus Christ started in your life. (Philippians 1:6)
 - God believes in the presence and power of the Holy Spirit that works in the believer's life. (2 Corinthians 4:6-10)
- 4) The "workers" believed in the landowner to fulfill his promise of the agreement.
 - God has fulfilled His promise of sending His Son Jesus Christ to die for the sins of all humanity. (Genesis 3:13-15, Isaiah 53:5, John 3:16, 8:44, Romans 8:20)
 - Jesus Christ fulfilled His promise of sending the Holy Spirit to dwell with and in the life of every believer. (John 14:15-18, Acts 1:8, 2 Corinthians 4:7)