



The Workers in the Vineyard

Matt 20:1-12: “For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. 2 He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard. 3 “About nine in the morning he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing. 4 He told them, ‘You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ 5 So they went. “He went out again about noon and about three in the afternoon and did the same thing. 6 About five in the afternoon he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, ‘Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?’ 7 “‘Because no one has hired us,’ they answered. “He said to them, ‘You also go and work in my vineyard.’ 8 “When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first.’ 9 “The workers who were hired about five in the afternoon came and each received a denarius. 10 So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius. 11 When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner. 12 ‘These who were hired last worked only one hour,’ they said, ‘and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.’

Matt 19:27: Peter answered him, “We have left everything to follow you! What then will there be for us?”

Matt 19:29: And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life.

Matt 19:30: But many who are first will be last, and many who are last will be first. Last words before parable.

Social Comparison Theory

Upward Comparison: Comparing yourself to someone better off than you.

Downward Comparison: Comparing yourself to someone worse off than you.

Matt 20:13-14: “But he answered one of them, ‘I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn’t you agree to work for a denarius? 14 Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you.

Matt 20:15: ‘Don’t I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?’

Matt 20:1: “For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner...”

Give thanks for:

1 – what God has done for you.

2 – who God is.

All scriptures referenced are from the New International Version (NIV) translation of the Bible unless otherwise indicated.