

Kingdom (In)Equality

Matthew 20:1-16



Understanding the Bible:

What is the problem being expressed in this Bible passage?

How does God show up in this Bible Passage?

Why did the workers who were in the vineyard all day grumble about their pay?

My favorite song today:

Things I will pray for this week:

Today's Bible Passage: Matthew 20:1-16

(Can you find the highlighted words?)

N O T H E R S E R T A W
N W B V D R L A S T F O
C V I N E Y A R D R T R
S F A K N H I R E E E K
U A R G A F W W C C R G
I O M O R N I N G E N R
W C D E I E S W N I O U
B E C A U S E W H V O N
Y D N Y S S O T E E N S
I A O T B D O E C R N A
R L E I N N T C A M E I
M S T A N D I N G C D D
E O L R I G H T O W H F

“For the kingdom of heaven is like a **landowner** who **went** out early in the **morning** to **hire workers** for his **vineyard**. He agreed to pay them a **denarius** for the day and sent them into his **vineyard**. “About nine in the **morning** he **went** out and saw **others standing** in the marketplace **doing nothing**. He told them, ‘You **also** go and **work** in my **vineyard**, and I will pay you whatever is **right**.’ So they **went**. “He

went out again about noon and about three in the **afternoon** and did the **same** thing. 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**?’ “ ‘**Because** no one has hired us,’ they **answered**. “He **said** to them, ‘You **also** go and **work** in my **vineyard**.’ “**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**.’ “The **workers** who were hired about **five** in the **afternoon** **came** and **each** received a **denarius**. So **when** those **came** who were hired **first**, they expected to **receive** more. But **each** one of them **also** received a **denarius**. **When** they received it, they began to grumble against the **landowner**. ‘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.’ “But he **answered** one of them, ‘I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn’t you **agree** to **work** for a **denarius**? Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired **last** the **same** as I gave you. Don’t I have the **right** to **do** what I want with my own money? Or are you envious **because** I am generous?’ “So the **last** will be **first**, and the **first** will be **last**.”