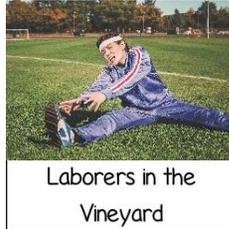


# God's Story Your Story

March 1, 2015



Laborers in the  
Vineyard

Matthew 20:15-16

Faith 5 - A pattern for shaping a life of faith

## SHARE:

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

**READ:** Reflect on the key verses from Sunday's reading. *[Jesus said,] "[The landowner said,] 'Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."* Matthew 20:15-16

## TALK:

- What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?
- Where are wages just and where are they unjust within your community? What would happen if Jesus' idea of abundant generosity was played out in your community?
- What difference does it make to your life that you have been given abundant, unearned, generous love from God?

## PRAY:

God of extravagant grace, you have showered your children with blessings we did not deserve, but gratefully receive. Accept our gratitude for your goodness, for the glory of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

## BLESS:

Generous God, our hearts are sometimes stingy. Speak love to us in the reading of your word. Amen.

## Some Background

Our sense of fairness is challenged in this parable. Many of us have been raised to believe we get what we earn. To imagine someone else might receive what we receive for having earned far less challenges our sensibilities. But what if we are not the laborer who has earned a day's wage? What if we are the laborer who cannot possibly work hard enough or long enough to earn a day's wage? Perhaps Jesus was teaching here that God offers love more abundantly than anyone can possibly earn.

**Follow the parables and teachings of Jesus, as Jesus challenged followers to do more for God's kingdom.**

Sunday, Matthew 20:1-16, *Laborers in the Vineyard*

Monday, Psalm 16:5-8, *Psalm*

Tuesday, Matthew 16:1-12, *Teachings of Jesus*

Wednesday, Matthew 16:13-23, *Jesus Foretells His Death*

Thursday, Matthew 17:9-27, *Teachings of Jesus*

Friday, Matthew 18:10-14, *Parables of Jesus*

Saturday, Matthew 19:1-30, *Teachings of Jesus*