

The Incalculable Generosity of God
(King Jesus: The Gospel of Matthew- Part 52)
March 7, 2021

The Backdrop: Matthew 19:16-30

The Story: Matthew 20:1-16

OUR GENEROUS GOD..

... keeps his _____

... is not only just; he's _____

... is more than fair; he's _____

MOVING FROM JEALOUSY TO GENEROSITY:

Instead of comparing yourself to others, compare yourself _____

Instead of trying to bargain with God, _____ him

Instead of focusing on what you _____, focus on what you _____

Fill-ins: promises; gracious; generous; to Jesus; trust; get; give

Life Group Questions for the Week of March 7, 2021

1. Looking back at your notes from this Sunday's message, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?
2. In the parable Jesus tells in Mt. 20:1-15, what is represented by the vineyard? The landowner? The workers? A denarius?
3. With which group of workers do you personally identify—with those hired at 6 am, 9 am, noon, 3 pm, or those hired at 5 pm? Is it better to be an early riser or a late comer in the kingdom of heaven?
4. In what ways is this parable similar to the parable of the Prodigal Son? Compare the attitude of the workers first hired to that of the elder brother.
5. What's the danger of thinking of yourself as a responsible worker, hired early in the day? Why is it dangerous to compare your own situation with someone else's?
6. As we saw on Sunday, comparison can easily lead to ingratitude and grumbling. Read 1 Corinthians 10:1-11. Along with grumbling, what other sins and their attending consequences are specifically mentioned in verses 7-10? Why does God include grumbling as a main sin of rebellious Israel?
7. Being able to celebrate and/or appreciate someone else's accomplishments that overshadow our own is a significant indicator of how well we're avoiding the "envy trap" and understanding the grace we've already received.

How might the following verses help us celebrate the accomplishments of others?
Proverbs 3:27; Proverbs 15:30; Galatians 6:9-10; Philippians 2:3

Which of these verses or principles is most important for you to remember and why?
8. Who needs to hear the truth of this passage and how will you share it with them?