



Rock Point Church
Bill Bush | 09.29.2024

BIG IDEA | Choose grace over grumbling.

Matthew 20:1-16 (NLT)

¹“For the Kingdom of Heaven is like the landowner who went out early one morning to hire workers for his vineyard. ² He agreed to pay the normal daily wage and sent them out to work.

³ “At nine o’clock in the morning he was passing through the marketplace and saw some people standing around doing nothing. ⁴ So he hired them, telling them he would pay them whatever was right at the end of the day. ⁵ So they went to work in the vineyard. At noon and again at three o’clock he did the same thing.

⁶ “At five o’clock that afternoon he was in town again and saw some more people standing around. He asked them, ‘Why haven’t you been working today?’

⁷ “They replied, ‘Because no one hired us.’

“The landowner told them, ‘Then go out and join the others in my vineyard.’

⁸ “That evening he told the foreman to call the workers in and pay them, beginning with the last workers first. ⁹ When those hired at five o’clock were paid, each received a full day’s wage. ¹⁰ When those hired first came to get their pay, they assumed they would

receive more. But they, too, were paid a day's wage. ¹¹ When they received their pay, they protested to the owner, ¹² 'Those people worked only one hour, and yet you've paid them just as much as you paid us who worked all day in the scorching heat.'

¹³ "He answered one of them, 'Friend, I haven't been unfair! Didn't you agree to work all day for the usual wage?' ¹⁴ Take your money and go. I wanted to pay this last worker the same as you. ¹⁵ Is it against the law for me to do what I want with my money? Should you be jealous because I am kind to others?' ¹⁶ "So those who are last now will be first then, and those who are first will be last."

How to choose grace:

Engage with God's call.

"Grace is not a license to sin; it is the power to be free from sin."

- Charles Stanley

How often do you find yourself striving for God's approval instead of resting in His grace?

What is one area in your life where you struggle to accept God's grace?

How to choose grace:

Engage with God's call.

Evade comparison.

What area in your life do you find yourself measuring against others? How does that affect your joy?

"Comparison is the thief of joy."

- Theodore Roosevelt

2 Corinthians 10:5 (NLT)

⁵ We destroy every proud obstacle that keeps people from knowing God. We capture their rebellious thoughts and teach them to obey Christ.

What external pressures are causing you to compare yourself to others?

What do I need to change to foster a healthier mindset?

How to choose grace:

Engage with God's call.

Evade comparison.

Extinguish your entitlement attitude.

What opportunities for service can you take advantage of this week?

What can your children learn about grace through your actions?

What is one small act of grace you can offer someone this week?

GROUPS QUESTIONS:

1. What stood out to you about this week's sermon?

2. Read Matthew 20:1-3, how do you personally relate to the workers in the vineyard? Are there times when you feel you deserve more than what you have? How can recognizing God's grace help you shift from a mindset of grumbling to one of gratitude?

3. How often do you find yourself striving for God's approval instead of resting in His grace? In what ways do you find it challenging to rest in God's grace instead of striving for approval?

4. Talk about a time when comparing yourself to someone else has affected your joy or satisfaction. What steps can you take to focus more on who God created you to be?

5. In Matthew 20:13-15, the owner challenges the entitlement mindset of the workers. What does serving for the right reasons look like in your life? How can letting go of entitlement transform your relationships and perspective?

6. What can your children or those you interact with learn about grace through your actions?

7. What is one small act of grace you can offer someone this week? How might that action not only impact the recipient but also change your own outlook?