



The Mathematics of Grace
Discussion Guide | August 16th, 2020
Before you begin, please read Matthew 20:1-16

1. In your own words, define the word “grace.”
2. Parables are vivid stories that drive home one primary point. In your own words, briefly summarize what Jesus says about God’s grace in this parable in 2-3.
3. How had the “early workers” in the parable forgotten the landowner’s generosity to them?
4. How can forgetting God’s grace shown to us make us stingy with grace, when it’s shown to others?
5. Imagine if the early workers had remembered the landowner’s generous character, and his generosity toward them:
 - How might this have changed the way they related to the landowner in the parable?
 - How might it have changed the way they related to the workers who came on later?
6. “Many of us want God’s grace ourselves, but we don’t want God to be gracious to others.” Are there ways you see that this is the case – either in your own life, or around you? Why is this the case?
7. “Enemies of grace” can include things like comparison, envy, entitlement, anger, and more. Explain how these are enemies of grace. (And is there anything else you’d add to this list?)
8. How can you keep in mind the amazing grace Jesus offers us? (For a picture of this grace, see Ephesians 2:1-10.) How should this impact the way you relate to God and to others?
9. Is there someone in your life that God’s grace is working powerfully in, in evident ways? What are the right ways to rejoice with and encourage that person? (Get practical with this point.)
10. **Challenge – Memorize Ephesians 2:4-5:** 4 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, 5 made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.